





REYNOLDS HISTORICAL  
GENEALOGY COLLECTION



ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



3 1833 03628 7347















THE NYE FAMILY 1847470  
7476  
THE  
OF AMERICA

# Nye Family of America

## Association

Reunions 1st - 6th

PROCEEDINGS AT THE FIRST REUNION  
AT SANDWICH, MASSACHUSETTS  
AUGUST FIFTH, SIXTH, AND SEVENTH

1903

---

PRINTED BY E. ANTHONY & SONS, Inc.  
NEW BEDFORD, MASS.

FIRST REUNION  
SANDWICH

1903



THE NYE FAMILY 1847-1903  
OF AMERICA

MRS. HENRY ALDEN BELCHER

1637



1903

FIRST REUNION  
SANDWICH

1903

62798

7-23-1931



THE NYE FAMILY  
OF AMERICA



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2012

1903

FIRST REUNION  
SANDWICH

<http://archive.org/details/proceedingsatre00nyef>

12 f. 100

MRS. HENRY ALDEN BELCHER

~~MR.~~ WILLIAM F. NYE

*Committee on Publication*





# OFFICERS

OF THE

## TEMPORARY ORGANIZATION

---

### *President*

MR. WILLIAM L. NYE, Sandwich, Mass.

### *Secretary and Treasurer*

MRS. HENRY ALDEN BELCHER, Randolph, Mass.

### *Executive Committee*

CHARLES H. NYE	. . . . .	Hyannis, Mass.
WILLIAM F. NYE	. . . . .	Fairhaven, Mass.
EVERETT I. NYE	. . . . .	Wellfleet, Mass.
LEVI S. NYE	. . . . .	Sandwich, Mass.
HON. WILLIAM A. NYE	. . . . .	Bournedale, Mass.
DAVID D. NYE	. . . . .	Cataumet, Mass.
JAMES L. WESSON	. . . . .	Boston, Mass.
WILLIAM P. NYE	. . . . .	Providence, R. I.
GEORGE H. NYE	. . . . .	Auburn, N. Y.
MRS. WILLIAM L. NYE	. . . . .	Sandwich, Mass.
MISS MARY E. NYE	. . . . .	Sandwich, Mass.
MRS. S. CURTIS SMITH	. . . . .	Newton, Mass.



## INTRODUCTORY

---

On the fifth, sixth, and seventh of August the Nye Family of America held their first home-coming in the historic and beautiful old town of Sandwich, Massachusetts.

Where could there have been a place more appropriate than this for the meeting of an organization, whose object is to keep alive the memory of those men of the olden time who were our ancestors, and to hand down to our children's children the record of their lives? Here in

1637

our ancestor, Benjamin Nye, toiled and struggled, amid many privations, so that in

1903

his descendants might enjoy the fruits of his labors, and here amid these scenes pay their tribute of affection to his memory. These men were not, as we judge men today, of brilliant intellect and of great ability, but men of fearless courage, and intentness of purpose, who held unwittingly in their hands the highest hopes of human destiny, which their descendants of today have seen rapidly fulfilled.

Who among us does not feel proud of such a birthright? This strong tie of kinship has caused his numerous progeny, from the Golden Gate in the West, to the Bay of Fundy in the East, to throw aside for awhile the cares of business and social life to meet their kinsfolk of old Cape Cod, with a fraternal greeting. In the few days of their stay here, they rambled amid the homesteads and the scenes of the labors of these men and





women, whose memories we treasure, and listened to the story of their lives and struggles, on the shores of Massachusetts Bay.

One of the first buildings that was erected by the settlers, was a church, where they might acknowledge their dependence upon "Him whose name is above every name, and to whom every knee should bow." The first reunion of the Nye Family was held in the First Parish Church, which stands on the site of the original church, always having among its pewholders and supporters, Benjamin Nye and his descendants.







FIRST PARISH CHURCH.

"These old church steps have echoed the tread  
Of many pilgrim feet,  
From homes, some far, some near, they came  
For prayer and praise most sweet.

So here today on the old church steps  
We will stand where our fathers stood,  
We will rest our feet on the rock of truth,  
Our faith in the ultimate good."



## PROCEEDINGS

---

THE first meeting of the family was held August fifth, at three o'clock P. M. Although the day proved to be very unpleasant, it was no hindrance to an enjoyable gathering. About two hundred persons were in attendance.

The meeting was called to order by the president of the temporary organization, Mr. William L. Nye, who proceeded, after the hymn "The Breaking Waves Dashed High" had been sung by the vast gathering, to deliver his address of welcome, as follows:

### FRIENDS AND KINDRED :

As president of the temporary organization of the Nye Family of America, the pleasant task has been assigned me to tender to you a friendly and hearty greeting, and welcome you to the home of your ancestors.

I can assure you I am proud to perform this duty ; proud to have the opportunity of giving you the kindly greeting, and proud to know that we are all related to one another, and that the blood of Benjamin Nye the first courses through our veins. In the brief remarks I may make, I shall touch lightly on the historical part of the life of our ancestors, leaving that to others to whom that duty has been assigned.

A reunion of the Nye Family of America is a matter that has been under consideration for a number of years. I remember twenty-five years ago a gentleman approached me in regard to this subject. That gentleman is with us today. I refer to one who is well known all over this land, wherever there is to be found a Nye—Mr. Charles H. Nye of Hyannis. He it is who has been the prophet and forerunner of this reunion today. It has been the aim of his life to have the Nye family gather together in this ancient town of Sandwich, the home of Benjamin Nye the first, and many others





who have followed him. For this he has prayed—for this hoped and labored,—and now in his old age he can truly say “My prayers have been answered, my hopes realized, and my labors have not been in vain.” I greet him today as the father of the reunion of the Nye Family of America.

One year ago your worthy secretary, Mrs. Henry Alden Belcher, undertook the task of making the reunion a reality. She has labored hard and faithfully, and this grand gathering of the clans evidences the fact.

What a notable gathering this is!—representatives of the Nye family being present from sixteen states and from the province of Canada. I presume, my friends, there has been some curiosity mixed in with the general love of ancestors and ancestral homes. Those of the East have wondered how their relatives of the West talk, look and dress. Those of the West will ask if the Nye from the state of Maine is a real Yankee Down Easter, and if he represents that character in speech and action, while the rest of the family, from all other sections, will be most anxious to meet with the typical Cape Codder. You may have imagined him in his home; in the yard fish-seines and fishing-boats, while he strutted round dressed in an oil-suit and tarpaulin; his native town a low sandy strip, void of all attraction.

If there is one thing more than any other that should cause your breasts to heave with pride today, it is the fact that Benjamin Nye was a Cape Codder by adoption and that you are all Cape Codders by lineal descent. But you will meet each other with a friendly grasp; you will look each other in the face and realize the fact that we are all the same, and children of one Father over us all—and Benjamin Nye.

It seems fitting that our first gathering place should be within the walls of this old First Parish Church, for it was on this spot that your ancestor worshiped. There is no doubt that he was a faithful member of the old Parish which dates back to 1637. With our Puritan fathers it was Church first and then State. They believed in the God they worshiped. Their trust was strong and their faith pure. 'Twas by faith they endured all the trials and hardships of their life in the wilderness. 'Twas faith that inspired them to push on, trusting for the reward of their labors in days to come. 'Twas by faith they trod the thorny way, and when life's labors ceased, by faith they passed through the valley and the shadow.

The first meeting-house was built soon after the arrival of the fifty who came from Saugus, Lynn and Plymouth (Benjamin Nye being of that number) in 1637, for as early as 1644 it was called “the old Meeting-house.” It was a small affair and looked much like a thatched barn, with shutters, and oiled-paper windows. It stood



very near the site of the present meeting-house. In front of it was the market-place where our ancestors sold their produce, swapped horses, and other things. I don't know that our ancestors were all saints, even if their descendants are. It may seem strange that there should be much to trade with at so early a period, but the art of trading is an instinct that is born, not manufactured. The little thatched meeting-house was enlarged several times. This was the church home of Benjamin Nye and family. Attending church then was a sacred duty, and in heat or cold, sunshine or rain, the Sabbath day found them wending their way to the little meeting-house, listening to two long and prosy sermons, one in the morning and another in the afternoon. The noon hour was spent in discussing the morning discourse or indulging in friendly gossip. Whether the descendants of Benjamin Nye have all inherited that characteristic I leave for you to decide. The second meeting-house was erected in 1756—a much larger and substantial building, and in the list of pew owners may be found the names of many of your ancestors.

The historian tells us that the houses in which the early Puritans dwelt were generally small, with one room, with the fireplace in the middle; an oven on the back side, often built out of doors, except when the house was built into the hill bank for warmth and security of the fireplace; few windows, fewer doors, and little furniture. The roof was covered with creek stuff, or thatch. I seem to see them now, toiling through the long day and at the setting of the sun wending their weary way to these humble homes, and I ween they were happy ones. Let us today wrap ourselves in the mantle of imagination and wander back through the years and centuries that have intervened, until we reach the solitary wilderness as it was in the days of yore. Then the thick forest covered hill and dale, even to the white sandy beach that holds old ocean in abeyance. We walk along the winding trail and pluck the wild flowers that blossom by the way. We walk along the pebbled beach and mark the waves rolling and thundering along the shore from Manomet Point to Sandy Neck. Out in the bay we see the little craft sailing for port, laden with merchandise and provision for the new settlers. We hear the sound of the woodman's axe laying low the hardy oak of the forest. We see the little patch of Indian corn or maize waving in the gentle breeze. As we step over the threshold of the homes, we see the busy housewife working at her daily task, contented, though that home lack all luxury and comfort. In the corner stands the old flint-lock musket, ready for any emergency. As we view these scenes we ask ourselves "Is there nothing the same today as in the days of 1637?" Yes, the same sun that shed its rays and warmed and protected them, warms and protects us. The pale silver moon that climbed the hills by night is the same





now as then. Old ocean, whose waves break along the shore, still roll in the bay as they did in the days of our forefathers. The river winds its way along through upland and meadow until it finds repose in the bosom of the mighty deep. "For men may come and men may go," "but the brook flows on forever." And may it not be said of the Nye family, that they too, retain some of the characteristics of their ancestors. Firm and steady of purpose, unchanging as old ocean, and certainly like the brook they are ever moving on, until they have founded homes in every part of the country.

Benjamin Nye the first was but sixteen years of age when he came to this place. Why he left his home in England we know not; neither do we know much of his boyhood days. We think that he must have been an enterprising youth, for at the age of twenty he had wooed and won the gentle maiden, Katherine Tupper. We may suppose that he became weary of the lonely walks through the wilderness he was compelled to take in order to do his wooing, and like a sensible young man ended them by marrying.

The laws governing the colony were very rigid and as rigidly enforced. If a man denied the Scriptures, he was flogged; ten shillings for over drinking; twelve shillings for smoking on the highway; thirty shillings for Sabbath-breaking and one hour in the stocks; working on Sunday, whipped severely at the whipping-post. A man for selling beer at two pence per quart, worth only one, was presented to the Grand Jury; for selling a pair of boots and spurs for fifteen shillings which cost only ten shillings, the fine was thirty shillings. There was also a law in Sandwich forbidding a young man to marry unless he had killed his quota of blackbirds demanded by the town. Benjamin seems to have shot the birds. Old men of seventy years of age were excused from the blackbirds. Men were fined for not ringing their swine's snouts. I think we can find that Benjamin the first was a law-abiding citizen, for there is no record of his being fined for any of the offences mentioned.

Thomas Dexter owned and maintained the first grist-mill, but being too anxious to prosper, his tolls increased so fast that the colonists induced Benjamin Nye to do the grinding so that they would have to allow him only an honest toll. His motto was unlike Dexter's, who must have sang,

"If for want of living I lack  
I'd steal the whole, false swear the sack."

Before the Dexter mill privilege was granted, the Puritan would take his bag of grain on his back and walk to Plymouth, eighteen miles away, and back again the same day, to get the grain ground into meal.



Friends, during your short sojourn here you will live in the past—the present will be forgotten. Like Ballamy you will find yourselves looking backward. In imagination you will live over again the scenes of bygone days. With the mind's eye you will see the old meeting-house, the humble homes and the toiling patriot, our Father Benjamin. Patriot he proved himself by giving his life for his country on the bloody battlefield of an Indian war. You will visit the spot where he erected his home and where he built the fulling and grist-mill, the gentle stream flowing now as then. All around you will see the numerous homes once occupied by the Nye family, John, Ebenezer, Zenas, and others.

There will, I know, be one spot in this old historic town you will be eager to gaze upon, and that spot, the home of Katherine Tupper—mother of us all. You will imagine her as a child roaming through the woodlands, plucking wild flowers by the way. You will think of her as she sat singing and treading the old spinning-wheel; of the time when she plighted her troth with the man of her choice, and you will wonder what the wedding was like; what good old Parson Leveredge said; were the neighbors there? No reporter was there to give a vivid picture of the event in the morning paper. Think of her as she was, the humble Puritan maiden, and while you revere the name of Benjamin Nye, still remember her who walked with and endured with him all the trials and hardships, joys and sorrows, of that primitive time—Katherine Tupper.

I would have you note that the road over which you will pass to reach this abode was the first highway of the early settlers, probably following the winding trail of the Indian.

You will visit the city of the silent—the old cemetery by the old mill-pond. You will read on many a moss-covered stone the names of no doubt many of your ancestors. It will be sacred ground to you and as you pass along among the mounds, almost obliterated, and view the slabs almost unreadable, you will feel in your hearts a kindlier feeling for their memory, and thank God that they lived and left a memory behind, worthy to be cherished to all time.

Friends, we have gathered in this old Parish Meeting-house today to commemorate the names of those whose descendants we are. They have passed on to the great unknown to receive that reward that is due to the faithful. And think you that mayhaps, they in the land beyond the blue may be looking down upon us and giving us their benedictions. I almost hear, as in angel whispers, Mother Katherine with her companion by her side say "Benjamin, ain't they a fine and likely looking family?" and the stern old pioneer replies, "Katherine, it is well. For them we labored that they might rest; suffered that they might rejoice; struggled that they might enjoy the fruits of our labors."





Representatives of the Nye Family of America: I welcome you today to the homes of your ancestors and the scenes of their privations and struggles. By the memories of the past I welcome you. In the name of Benjamin and Katherine I welcome you. May your tarry with us prove pleasant and instructive, and when the time shall come that we must bid adieu to one another and each depart to his or her home and the different avocations, may the memories of this reunion linger with you as long as life may last. Again I say, "Welcome."

The president then introduced Hon. William A. Nye, Senator from the Cape, who said:

**MR. CHAIRMAN, AND FELLOW MEMBERS OF THE NYE FAMILY:**

For the past half century there has been throughout the country and among all classes a growing sentiment or interest in ancestry. This sentiment within the past few years has taken such practical shape that there are very few prominent families that have not at this time their genealogies and their family Associations in such shape that they are of great value to the country at large. They have organized family Associations, have held meetings and reunions either at the old family seat or at some adjacent city or town, and as a result they have induced us and other families not quite as forward in such matters, to take up the subject.

A few years ago quite a number of the members of the family living in this locality became interested in the matter and we discussed the proposition of having a Nye reunion either at Sandwich or in this vicinity, at various times. As a result of this discussion a number of us met last winter at this place and formed a temporary organization and voted to issue a call to all members of the Nye family in America to meet at Sandwich this summer. We did more than that—we chose as secretary of that organization Mrs. Henry Alden Belcher, a tireless, hearty and enthusiastic worker in the cause, and to her interest largely, if not altogether, is due this meeting we have here today.

We are here for the purpose of organization, to make the acquaintance of each other and of the people of the town and for research into our family history and genealogy.

As you know, this our first gathering, is to be followed this evening by a reception given by the town officials and the townspeople. It is peculiarly fitting that this, our first meeting, should be held in this old historic town. It is unquestionably the first home of the Nye family. It is in sight of where in 1620 that little "band of exiles moored their bark on the wild New England shore." Two hundred and sixty-six years ago this summer, Richard Bourne, a





prominent member of the colony, taking leave of his fellow colonists, gathered together his household goods and chattels and took up his line of march southward over the old Indian Megansett way along the shore of the Bay until he came to this place. Here, shortly afterwards, he was joined by fifty others coming from the settlements of Lynn and Saugus, among these being the Allens, Ewers, Freemans, Briggs, Wings, and our ancestor, Benjamin Nye. They found here the same beautiful landscape, the same fertile soil, and the same streams teeming with fish. Here they built their home. Here they planted their school-house and their church, and under these influences their children grew to manhood.

Benjamin Nye was not a great man as we look upon men, perhaps, today. But he was a man possessed of that energy and that integrity of purpose that made him prominent among those valiant men in the colonies, and you, as his descendants who have come here today from almost every northern state of the Union and from the middle west, can look back with pride upon the name he bore.

The sentiment which brought you here is one which is not confined to high culture and to morality, but is found in all walks of life and among all classes of people. The love of ancestry is one which we find everywhere. The Zuni Indians, living out on the far borders of New Mexico, had a tradition that their forefathers came from the eastern shore, and so great was their love of ancestry that once in every forty years a chosen few of the tribe were sent two-thirds across the continent toward the east to obtain water from the shores of the Atlantic which was carried back to the tribe in the west. This which to them is a rite, should certainly be to us a pleasant duty, and I hope that this first meeting and the result of this permanent organization which we form here today will be that at stated periods we shall have our reunions, which will tend to make us as one family and which we shall enjoy as long as we live.

It has been stated that my relative, Charles H. Nye, was the author of this movement. Whatever of sentiment or feeling I have in the matter was certainly inspired by him, and I think those of you who are taking this interest in your family home and ancestry have to thank him very largely for the inception of the movement.

In behalf of those of us who formed this permanent organization, of the citizens of Sandwich and of the Cape generally, I give you a hearty welcome to our land, and I hope that the other days that you stay here with us will be so full of enjoyment and inspiration that you will look back to them in future years as a golden milestone marking three days' pleasant tarry in the journey of life. You have the freedom of the city.



The third speaker was Mr. Charles H. Nye, of Hyannis, Mass., who is the father of the Nye reunion idea. He is eighty-two years of age, and the oldest member of the executive committee.

MR. PRESIDENT AND LADIES AND GENTLEMEN OF THE NYE FAMILY:

We have been called together today by our Secretary for the purpose of holding a family reunion of all by the name of Nye who descended from the first of that name who came to this country in 1633, Benjamin Nye.

I am pleased to meet so many that are interested, and hope that we may have an *enjoyable* meeting and a *genuine reunion*. This without doubt, is the first gathering of the Nye family that has ever convened, and friends, I wish you a friendly greeting, hoping that we may have a very pleasant and enjoyable meeting and perfect a permanent organization, that we may leave a record to those who follow us that we will not be ashamed of.

The race that we are from is an honorable one and we need not be ashamed of the name of Nye. Said one of my correspondents, "I am proud of the name of Nye, and when I was married I added the new name instead of dropping my original name."

I have corresponded with parties in many states of the Union and find many interested, but never have traced their genealogy back but a few generations and have an idea that the name originated with the first settlers of Cape Cod.

That idea is in part correct, as there was but one of that name that came to this country, and that was Benjamin who came here while young and settled in this old historic town of Sandwich.

Soon Benjamin began to think of a home of his own, and thought that it was not good for man to be alone. Therefore he began to look for one of the best young ladies of the town and finally settled on Katherine Tupper, daughter of Rev. Thomas Tupper, who was a preacher to the Indians. They were married October 19, 1640, and raised a large family. He afterwards went to Plymouth and joined the army that was raised to quell the King Philip's war; he was mortally wounded at Rehoboth, March 26, 1676, and was buried there.

A slight history of the origin of the idea of a reunion may be of interest to many.

Some years ago, a schoolmate, Calvin B. Nye, was visiting North Falmouth on a vacation, and while there he visited the old people living at that place, and became very much interested in the genealogy of our family, and thought that some one should get up a family chart of our ancestry, the descendants of John and Ebenezer,





the first settlers of North Falmouth. Mr. Nye started a chart and got much data, and when he decided to give it up for want of time he sent it to me to finish, and when completed I sent him a copy. He has passed on to his long home, while I am left. I have not completed the chart, but have traced our branch out very satisfactorily, waiving all omissions.

While tracing I conceived the idea of an organization of our family and commenced agitating the subject and began to look for suitable persons for officers for an organization. I met with poor success and felt discouraged. But now we have friends who have come up to help, aid and assist in the work, and the prospect is good for a successful organization. Our secretary, Mrs. Belcher, has done most or all the work and is deserving of much credit and praise, and I hope she will not be forgotten.

We are now on the first step of an organization, which pleases me. I have been working for it for many years past, and hope that this reunion will go on and bring about a perfect organization that we can pass down to those who may follow us. I did not intend to speak, but by the advice of friends (being the oldest on the executive committee) have said what I have, to greet you all to this historic town of Sandwich.

After the distribution of souvenir programmes the meeting adjourned, to meet again at eight o'clock at the Casino. This meeting was under the auspices of the town of Sandwich, who met to extend a welcome to the home coming of the Nye Family.

After several selections had been sung by the Old Home Week Chorus, Mr. Eugene W. Haines, chairman of the board of selectmen, told in a few remarks of the vote of the town at the annual meeting, at which time it was voted to extend an official welcome to the Nyes, and to any other family who should come back to their old home in Sandwich. Mr. John Carlton, another member of the board, spoke of the part the Nyes had taken in building up the town, and said their descendants would always be welcome.

Gen. George H. Nye of Boston, Mass., very eloquently responded to the welcome.

Thursday morning, August sixth, the first business meeting was held, about three hundred persons being in attendance. After the organ prelude by James McLaughlin, Jr., prayer was



offered by Rev. Ezra Nye Smith of North Falmouth, Mass. The following original hymn, written by Miss Abbie F. Nye of Sandwich, was sung to the tune of "Coronation."

Jehovah, Lord, who from above  
Dost now behold us here,  
Be pleased to grant our humble prayer  
A gracious list'ning ear.

A family of ancient line,  
We gladly gather now,  
To celebrate the name we bear,  
And at thy altar bow.

The waves that roll their monotone  
O'er depths of ocean grim,  
The winds that swell their notes sublime,  
Eternal praises hymn.

The rocks that crown the mountain's brow  
And guard the waterfall,  
From height to height in solemn strain  
Their adoration call.

And so would we, in glad acclaim  
Our voices raise to thee,  
Our fathers' God, in this our time  
Of heartfelt jubilee.

We praise thy name for mercies past,  
Thy blessing we implore;  
Thy guidance wise, thy loving care  
Be ours for evermore.

The president then called for the secretary's report, which was read and approved.

The report was as follows:

It is my privilege to tell you of the cause of this reunion, the where, when, and how it began. There seems to be two. If we look for the primal one, we must turn back the lapse of time about two hundred and sixty-five years. At that time if we were to have climbed the hills, which then as now encircle the town, we should have looked out upon an apparently unbroken wilderness of forest, lake, and stream, which ran from the hills until it met the waves that washed the shore of Massachusetts Bay.



Coming down nearer the shore we might have seen the solitary Indian trading post, also the small clearings, and the few log houses of the ten pioneers, who had then begun to settle this wilderness.

Entering the home of Thomas Tupper we might have been greeted by his daughter Katherine, whom we all revere as the mother of the tribe of Nye. A short time after this we might have seen issuing from one of the bridle paths, a company of forty settlers, who had come to join those intrepid pioneers who had preceded them. Upon a closer examination of this band we might have seen a young lad in his teens, who was the primal cause of this gathering today. Benjamin Nye left his parental home at the early age of sixteen years. This young man with the blood of the Vikings coursing through his veins, and with the spirit of the pioneer, which he has bequeathed to many of his descendants, embarked as one of the settlers of the then little-known colony of New England. What his purpose in so doing was, we have little knowledge, but certainly he could have had no idea of becoming one of the founders of a great nation.

He and his children, in common with the other settlers of the Plymouth colony, were largely instrumental in making the America which we inherit today. And built as it was upon the principles of civil and religious liberty, it has withstood the test of time and has made us, as a nation, the wonder and admiration of the world.

Arriving at the years of manhood we find him a large landholder, and taking part in the affairs of the new town, at last giving up his life in defence of his fireside and family.

His descendants, in common with the other inhabitants of the new town of Sandwich, pursued the homely occupation of clearing the forest, tilling the soil, building of ships, and providing for the sustenance of their families. The village grew from what we have seen to a typical New England town, and our neighbor, Mr. Joseph Jefferson, says the handsomest one outside of Old England. And if we were to ascend one of our hills today, we might look out upon a landscape view which is hardly to be excelled. Looking across the lake at our feet, we view the results of their privations and toil in the spires of the several churches among and above the green of the trees, while perched upon the hillside and nestled in the shade of trees, are the well-kept homes of our inhabi-





tants today. Instead of the bridle path we find wide and shaded streets, while the green of the farming land extends to the ocean as a background. Under the shade of one of our noble and magnificent elms, in August, 1902, we may look for the immediate cause of this gathering today. We find a small gathering of Nyes whose earnest wish was to have a reunion of the family. Among them was one of fourscore years who for many years has labored for this purpose, and whose most earnest desire was that we might gather under our roof-tree the many descendants of Benjamin Nye, scattered as they are from the Golden Gate on the west, to our Pine Tree State in the east, that we might grasp them by the hand with a fraternal welcome.

In accordance with this wish the following invitation was sent out:

I am inviting several of the descendants of Benjamin Nye to meet at my residence in Sandwich, to consult upon the feasibility of a reunion of the family next year, and to form a temporary organization for that purpose. If you are interested I would be pleased to have you present.

(Signed)

MRS. HENRY ALDEN BELCHER.

In response to this invitation the following persons were present: Mr. Charles H. Nye, Hyannis; Mr. Wm. F. Nye, Fairhaven; Mr. William L. Nye, Sandwich; Mr. Levi S. Nye, Sandwich; Hon. William A. Nye, Bourne; Mr. Everett I. Nye, Wellfleet; Mr. David D. Nye, Cataumet; Mrs. Wm. L. Nye, Sandwich; Miss Mary E. Nye, Sandwich.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Belcher, who stated that the object of the meeting was to form a temporary organization of the Nye family, for the purpose of forming a National Association, the object of which should be to collect family history, promote family pride, and cultivate a closer bond of friendship among the kindred.

The sentiment of those present at this meeting was in favor of having a reunion in the near future, to which a general invitation might be extended to the Nyes scattered throughout the country, in the hope that such a reunion would be largely attended, and the temporary organization be made a permanent association. In accordance with this idea a board of officers was elected. [See circular following.]



On motion of Mr. Everett Nye it was voted to hold the first reunion of the family in Sandwich, Mass., sometime in July or August, 1903.

In November the following circular was sent out :

THE NYE FAMILY OF AMERICA.

At a meeting of several of the descendants of Benjamin Nye, held at Sandwich, Mass., September 15, 1902, a temporary organization was formed for the purpose of holding a reunion of the family in the near future.

The following officers were elected :

MR. WILLIAM L. NYE, Sandwich, Mass., President.

MRS. HENRY ALDEN BELCHER, Randolph, Mass., Secretary and Treasurer.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

MR. CHARLES H. NYE, Hyannis, Mass.

MR. WILLIAM F. NYE, Fairhaven, Mass.

MR. EVERETT I. NYE, Wellfleet, Mass.

MR. LEVI S. NYE, Sandwich, Mass.

HON. WILLIAM A. NYE, Bourne, Mass.

MR. DAVID D. NYE, Cataumet, Mass.

MR. JAMES L. WESSON, Boston, Mass.

MR. WILLIAM P. NYE, Providence, R. I.

MR. GEORGE H. NYE, Auburn, N. Y.

MRS. S. CURTIS SMITH, Newton, Mass.

MRS. WILLIAM L. NYE, Sandwich, Mass.

MISS MARY E. NYE, Sandwich, Mass.

As Benjamin Nye settled in Sandwich in the year 1637 and married his wife Katherine Tupper there, it seemed fitting, and was thus voted, "To hold the first reunion of the Nye family at Sandwich, Mass., some time in July or August, 1903."

The descendants of Benjamin Nye are very numerous and are widely scattered all through the states of the Union. The secretary has only been able to trace those bearing the name of Nye, and as a large proportion of the descendants bear other names, she trusts that those receiving this circular will see to it that all the branches of their family are notified.

The Committee ask your co-operation in helping to make this, the first reunion of the Nye Family, a grand success.

WILLIAM L. NYE, President.

MRS. HENRY ALDEN BELCHER, Secretary.

The first meeting of the committee having in charge the reunion of the Nye family, met with the secretary at Randolph, January 29th, the president and seven members being present.





May 14th the committee met with the president at Sandwich, ten members being present. At this meeting the final arrangements were made for the reunion. The secretary was instructed to prepare a programme for the same.

In June the second circular was sent out, which was:

### THE NYE FAMILY OF AMERICA REUNION

ALL DESCENDANTS OF BENJAMIN NYE ARE INVITED TO GATHER AT  
SANDWICH, MASSACHUSETTS, AUGUST 5TH, 6TH AND 7TH, 1903,

TO CELEBRATE

### THE FIRST REUNION OF THE FAMILY

It seems fitting that the first meeting should be held in this historic old town, as it was there that our ancestor first settled in 1637, and where he married his wife, Katherine Tupper. He was prominent in all affairs of the settlement, and owned a large grant of land there. He was the father of a large family, and from them sprang the race of Nyes which quickly became one of the leading families of Cape Cod. He finally lost his life in the Indian war at Rehoboth.

From Sandwich the Nyes spread into Maine and all over New England. Three or four generations ago, one of the descendants of Benjamin, in the same pioneer spirit which prompted his ancestor to come to America, went West and settled in Marietta, Ohio, whence sprang the Nyes who are scattered throughout every state to the Pacific coast.

There will be historical addresses and papers bearing upon family matters, by prominent members of the family, chief among which will be a paper by Mr. George H. Nye of Auburn, N. Y., who has made a specialty of tracing the family genealogy. Also a paper by Mr. Sylvanus Nye of Buffalo, N. Y., on "Those of the family who were prominent in politics and the legal profession." A paper by Miss Mary C. Nye of Marietta, Ohio, on "The Ohio Branch of the Family." Mrs. S. Curtis Smith of Newton, Mass., will tell of "The Women of the Family." There will be other short addresses. There will be two receptions and a concert at the Casino the evenings of the 5th and 6th. Visits will be made to historical spots in the town.

Board and rooms will not exceed \$2.50 per day. The meals will be in charge of a well-known caterer of Boston.

Each person expecting to attend the reunion must give the Secretary notice of such intention as soon as possible by filling out the attached coupon and returning it to her. It is necessary that this should be done that ample provision may be made for all.

We hope to make arrangements with the railroad officials for the issuing of excursion tickets from all principal points in the West and New England.

MRS. HENRY ALDEN BELCHER,  
*Secretary.*



I have sent out about two thousand circulars, and have written 250 letters, and 70 postal cards. We have advertised in three issues of the *Boston Globe*, the *Boston Herald*, and the *Boston Post*; several times in the *Randolph Register*, through the courtesy of the editor of that paper, who is a descendant of Benjamin Nye; also the *Barnstable Patriot*, the *Observer and Independent*, as well as the *New Bedford Standard*, and two Brockton papers.

It is with great pleasure that I see this large gathering today. As I look in your faces I see the gleam of pride at our birthright flash from your eyes, and instead of strangers I seem to see one large family. We are gathered here to open the pages of history and to learn of the lives and actions of these men and women of the olden time—our ancestors. But we should also take a look into the future, and see to it that this organization be made a permanent institution. Remembering that in “Treasuring up the memorials of the fathers we best manifest our regard for posterity.”

While the duties of the secretary have been quite arduous, there has been also a great compensation in the pleasant and fraternal acquaintance which I have made by correspondence, and to note with satisfaction how strong the tie of kinship is which binds us together as one family.

Respectfully submitted.

HANNAH B. NYE BELCHER.

The Treasurer's report, showing a balance of seven cents in the treasury, was read and accepted.

The following letter from the president of the Wing Family of America was then read:

KEWAUNEE, WIS., August 3, 1903.

TO THE PRESIDENT, OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE NYE FAMILY, IN REUNION ASSEMBLED:

In behalf of the Wing Family of America, Incorporated, I tender you our fraternal greeting and good wishes, and sincerely hope that your meeting will be all that you anticipate in happiness and historical interest.

In this connection, let me recall that when your brave and revered ancestor, Benjamin Nye, perished in the defence of the colonies in the bloody massacre at Rehoboth, with him fell on



that fateful day young Stephen Wing, his neighbor and compatriot from Sandwich.

By both marriage and death we Wings feel Nye unto you in these days of your well-deserved pleasure.

Cordially and fraternally,

GEO. W. WING,

*President, Wing Family of America Incorporated.*

It was voted to extend to the Wing Family, through their president, the sincere thanks and appreciation of the Nye Family assembled in convention.

On motion of Mr. George H. Nye of Auburn, N. Y., it was voted that the assemblage take steps to perfect a permanent organization. This was carried by acclamation.

On motion of Mr. H. A. Nye of West Salem, Wis., it was voted that a committee be appointed by the chair to formulate a plan for the purpose of organization, and that the report be given at a later hour.

The committee appointed were:

Hon. David J. Nye . . . .	Elyria, Ohio
Hon. Stephen A. Nye . . .	Fairfield, Maine
John W. Nye . . . .	Manchester, N. H.
George H. Nye . . . .	Auburn, N. Y.
William F. Nye . . . .	Fairhaven, Mass.
Dr. Fremont Nye . . . .	Westerly, R. I.
F. H. A. Nye . . . .	West Salem, Wis.

Announcements regarding rooms, badges, meals, and places of interest, including the Tupper house, the old mill privilege at Spring Hill, and the old burying ground in which lie buried many of the Nye family, were given by the president.

Mr. George H. Nye of Auburn, N. Y., gave the following historical address, which probably contains more family data than has ever before been presented in so condensed a form:

The name of Nye first appears in Great Britain in the fifteenth century, but long before that period or about the middle of the thirteenth century, it appeared in the Sjelland section of Denmark. About that time many Swedes fled to adjoining states to avoid





the dangers at home, and we find traces of their settlements in Denmark in such compound names as Ny-borg, Ny-stead, and of other towns named after their Swedish homes; in like manner to the naming of New Amsterdam by the Dutch settlers in America, the prefix Ny in the Danish language, meaning new or new comer.

In those days, in many countries surnames were altogether unknown, as it became more and more the custom to adopt them, as a means of avoiding confusion, some distinctive feature gave a man the surname by which he was distinguished among his fellow men; perchance his trade or occupation, as Baker, Carpenter or Gardener; perhaps his figure, as Broad, Short or Tallman; often the simple addition of son, as Johnson, Williamson or Robinson.

In the middle of the thirteenth century, then, this new comer, to whom tradition attributed a noble descent, settled in Denmark and was given by the inhabitants the name of Nye, signifying new comer, and his son, Lave Nye, became a man of great prominence, and ultimately, in 1316, bishop of Roskilde.

The family remained in that locality for four more generations, when two brothers James and Randolph, sons of Bertolf Nye, settled in England; James, the elder, in Wiltshire, afterwards removing to Hampshire; while Randolph, the younger, from whom the American Nyes are sprung, settled in Sussex, and we may suppose the welcome to Alexandra extended to him:

“Saxon and Norman and Dane are we,  
But all of us Danes in our welcome of thee.”

The Danish family of Nye bore as armory, azure, a crescent in-crescent argent; crest, two horns couped, counter charged azure and crescent. None of the family ever took the trouble to have this confirmed in England, and no original grant of a Nye coat of arms appears in the English records.

Randolf Nye, mentioned as holding land in Uckfield, Sussex, had one son, William, a minister, who, in turn, bequeathed the Uckfield farm to his son, Ralph, in 1556; of his children Thomas, the oldest, settled in Bidlenden, county Kent, and had a somewhat celebrated family.

Henry, born in 1589, matriculated at Oxford in 1609, was bachelor of arts in 1611, vicar of Cobham, Surrey, in 1615, rector of Clapham, Sussex, in 1630. He had a son, John, who matriculated at Oxford in 1634. Philip, the second son, born in 1596, matriculated at Oxford in 1616, rector of St. Michael's, Cornhill, and of Acton, Middlesex, in 1645, was a celebrated independent preacher of Cromwell's time.

In Henry G. Bohn's edition of Butler's *Hudibras*, published by George Bell and Son, London, may be found interesting notes concerning him, and his famous beard, which the poet refers to in



rhyme. In fact, Philip Nye's beard is honored with an entire poem in Butler's *Genuine Remains*, Vol. 1, page 177.

At that period beards were the prominent part of fashionable costume. So much so, that when the head of a certain celebrated court chaplain and preacher had been dressed in a superior style, the friseur exclaimed, with a mixture of admiration and self-applause, "I'll be hanged if any person of taste can attend to one word of the sermon today." This will enable us to comprehend the lines of the poet, when he writes,

"With greater art and cunning reared  
Than Philip Nye's Thanksgiving beard."

That this was not his only vanity, we can imagine from the fact that, while rector of Acton he rode there every Lord's day in triumph in a coach drawn by four horses. He attacked William Lilly, the prophetic astrologer, from the pulpit with much virulence, and for this service was rewarded with the office of holding forth upon Thanksgiving days.

He was a prominent figure during the protectorate of Oliver Cromwell and one of the dissenting brethren in the Westminster assembly, and distinguished himself by his zeal and activity in support of the parliament against Charles I.

In 1633 he fled to Holland to escape the persecution, where he remained until 1640. A son of his, Rupert, died at Oxford college in 1660, while he himself died in 1672, and was buried in the upper vault under the Church of St. Michael, Cornhill. He wrote a complete history of the old Puritan dissenters, but the manuscript was burned at Alderman Clarkson's, in the great fire of London.

Thomas, the third son, named after his father, inherited the lands in Bidlenden, county Kent, which he bequeathed in turn to his youngest son, who also bore the name of Thomas, on July 4th, 1637, and stating in that document, "My oldest son, Benjamin, having gone to New England."

It is this Benjamin, who gave up his birthright to seek his fortune in the New World, whose memory we honor today and whose birthday is recorded as May 4th, 1620.

Among the favorite names of the early daughters of Cape Cod, that of Abigail is quite prominent, and it is in the good ship *Abigail*, of which Robert Hackwell was master, that we presume Benjamin to have embarked. Unfortunately but fragments of her list have been preserved, but of the names upon those fragments appear several of the original settlers of Sandwich, and among them we find that of the Rev. Thomas Tupper, whose daughter Katherine became the wife of Benjamin Nye.

The *Abigail* sailed sometime after July 10th, 1635, the last date mentioned in any of the fragments, and landed at Saugus, now





Lynn. Many of the party remained there, but some time about April 3d, 1637, a number of families removed to Sandwich, as appears by an order of the court of that date, wherein they were granted sufficient land for three score families. Dennis Geere, of Saugus, one of the Abigail's passengers, died shortly after landing, on December 10th, 1635, leaving the sum of thirty shillings to Benjamin Nye.

Those appearing upon the fragments of the Abigail's lists all took the oath of conformity before sailing, while the Nyes of England were non-conformists, or independents, so possibly Benjamin was stowed away. At any rate, he got there, a trait which has become a family characteristic.

In 1643 he appears in the list of those in Sandwich able to bear arms. In 1654 his name appears on a list of those contributing toward building a mill. March 29th, 1655, his name is on the subscription list for building a meeting-house. In 1655 he is supervisor of highways, and his name appears through many years of town history.

In 1669 he is granted "twelve acres of land because he built the mill by the little pond." A few months later he is granted "eight acres of land adjoining his six acres next to his meadow by the little river."

August 8th, 1675, "voted Benjamin Nye permission to build a fulling-mill upon Spring Hill river, providing it does not 'damnifie' the County road, and to keep a mill in said place so long as he keeps a fulling-mill there."

The history of Barnstable county states, "At Spring Hill, just west from East Sandwich, the remains of the old Benjamin Nye saw mill are still extant in the brook."

The records of Plymouth colony during King Philip's war, show that Benjamin Nye was killed, together with four other men of Sandwich, at the battle of Rehoboth, March 26, 1676, leaving behind him a goodly number of sons, daughters and grandchildren, and so let us dismiss the American founder of our family, leaving his descendants to increase and multiply and to shed their blood in the battles of the Revolution and of every war in which our country has since engaged.

Of the sons of Benjamin, John and Ebenezer bought one thousand acres of land at Megansett, North Falmouth, by deed from Elizabeth Ellis, which was afterwards confirmed by title from the Colonial government, and signed by William Bradford, son and heir of Governor Bradford of the Plymouth colony. The title to this Nye tract has, I am informed, passed by descent to this date without going into other hands than those of lineal descendants in the male line.

Ebenezer built a house on what is now called Wicker Tree field.



One of his sons lived at Woods Hole Neck, or Nobsky, and the progenitor of the Nyes since inhabiting that neighborhood. Other sons of Ebenezer were Elnathan and Miltiah, who lived near the original settlement. John, son of John, bought jointly with Edmund Freeman 1,000 acres of land at Windham, Ct., in 1702.

Passing to the stirring times of the Revolution, we find that to name those of the family who served their country would be to give a complete list of every able-bodied man of that name. They all fought, and on the right side. There were no Royalists among them. Stephen Nye was particularly active, and in May, 1775, we find a letter from him to Colonel Freeman, then in Boston, regarding certain depredations by the enemy.

The Nye and Freeman families were closely connected by many marriages. There are many Freeman Nyes in my records, my grandfather having a brother of that name, while in the Old Granary burial ground in the city of Boston, where are buried the remains of John Hancock, Paul Revere, Samuel Adams, James Otis, Peter Faneuil and the victims of the Boston massacre, is an ancient tomb, covered with a flat slab inscribed "Nye's and Freeman's Tomb."

At Marthas Vineyard and the Elizabeth islands were Captain Elisha Nye and First Lieutenant Stephen Nye, Jr., both of company 4. Among the representatives from the Cape in the house of representatives at that time were Joseph Nye, Jr., of Sandwich, and Joshua Nye of Harwich, and we find them both on a committee "to make inquisition in reference to the accusation against certain persons of being concerned in the importation of tea and English goods."

In the Sandwich records we find that at a town meeting held February 1st, 1775, a committee was appointed to see that the recommendation of the congresses be carried into execution, and we find upon that committee the names of Stephen Nye, Joseph Nye, 3d, Thomas Nye, Silvanus Nye and Lot Nye.

Among the names on a paper dated Barnstable, February 29, 1780, are those of Nathan Nye, Jr., adjutant, and John and Peter Nye, lieutenants. There are many others of the name from the Cape, others from the Berkshire Hills, while Connecticut and other of the colonies came to the front with many of Benjamin Nye's descendants. The records already in my possession show no less than ninety-six lineal descendants in the male line of Benjamin Nye who served in the War of the Revolution. Surely this is a fact to be proud of. There were Nyes at Bunker Hill and at Lexington. We find them in every war and every battle; in the war of 1812, the French and Indian wars, and in the Mexican and Civil wars.

One of the family who served as first sergeant in the Glastonbury





company in the Lexington alarm was Meletiah Nye, of Tolland, Ct. He was killed by lightning August 4, 1764, and his tomb bears the following inscription: "Sacred to the memory of Mr. Meletiah Nye, the agreeable consort of Mrs. Hannah Nye, who was killed by lightning Aug. 4, A. D. 1764, in the 61st year of his age.

"God sends the lightning from the sky  
And calls us suddenly to die.  
My friends, attend the solemn call,  
As you must die and so must all."

We have one of the heroes of the last war with us today, and as he is too modest to blow his own horn, let me do it for him. I take it verbatim from the Maine records: "George Henry Nye, born Feb. 24th, 1828, at Hallowell, Me., second lieutenant company K, first Maine regiment, May 3, '61; captain of company K, 10th Maine, Oct. 4th, '61; captain 29th Maine, Nov. 13th, '63; major Oct. 18th, '64; colonel Dec. 20th, '64; brevet brigadier general, Oct. 28th, '65; brevet major general, to rank from March 13th, '65." And there is no telling where he would have landed if the war had not been brought to a close. "Wounded in the wrist at Cedar Mountain, and in the mouth at Cedar Creek, served entire term of all three regiments." The report of the battle of Cedar Mountain says Captain Nye was hit three times, but was not off duty a day.

My acquaintance with the general dates back several years; as our names were identical, with the exception of his well-earned title, it may readily be imagined that our mails should get mixed up, as they did, when we stopped at the same hotel. Naturally we made efforts to meet, and when we compared notes we found that the coincidence extended farther than the similarity of name; each had six daughters and one son, and the name of each son was George H., Jr., which each of us asserts was not due to personal vanity, but to feminine diplomacy.

During the Civil War, Ebenezer F. Nye of Sandwich owned the schooner Abigail of New Bedford; on one occasion he manned two of her boats, sending them to warn other vessels that the privateer Shenandoah was upon them, thereby giving them a chance to escape, but his own boat was destroyed. He was afterwards master of the Mt. Wollaston, which sailed into the Arctic seas and never returned.

Leaving the military record of the family with the war at Onset Bay still in progress, I will turn over to others the task of giving the story of the Nye family in civil life.

My work in gathering together the family history is nearly complete. It may be interesting to trace some of the steps that have led to it.





My own immediate branch of the family dates back to Falmouth, where my great-grandfather Seth, whose father also bore that name, was born August 7, 1756. He and his brother Francis, both of whom served in the Revolutionary war, removed to Lee, in the Berkshire Hills, where each married, the former Amy West, the latter Meriam Dodge. My great-grandfather moved in 1796, together with a number of other families, to the vicinity of Auburn, N. Y., where our family has since resided. Since then others of the name have come there from Vermont. My grandfather, Elisha Nye, died young, leaving my father, Lorenzo W. Nye, as his only child.

My first recollection of meeting any one by the name of Nye outside of our own family was when a mere boy I visited the family of Colonel Lewis at Quisset. Both my father and myself were only sons, so that there were none of the name at that time in our immediate neighborhood, but when I struck Cape Cod it seemed that about every man I met bore that name, and those who did not had married into the family. It impressed itself deeply upon me, and I began to lay by scattering bits of information, but did not take the matter up systematically until about four years ago, when I visited Cornell library to look at Freeman's History and Savage's Genealogy. By appointment I met Sylvanus H. Nye of Ithaca, who I had been informed possessed considerable information regarding the family. He showed me Charles H. Nye's chart on Nye names in line of descent, which interested me very much.

After looking at Freeman's History, I made up my mind to possess one. I obtained the address of Charles H. Nye and wrote him. There I struck a gold mine of information; and I wish to acknowledge here the obligation we are all under to Charles H. Nye for the mass of information he has treasured up. Through him I procured a Freeman's History from Everett I. Nye of Wellfleet, who knows a good thing when he sees it. Through him, also, I corresponded with others who had items of family history.

Gradually, I found my correspondence increasing till it interfered with my regular duties, and I then put the procuring of the American history in the hands of a professional genealogist, Mr. Frank E. Best of Chicago. The English and Danish matter I procured from other sources.

There are post offices by the name of Nye in Indiana, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, West Virginia and Wisconsin, and I presume our efficient secretary, Mrs. Henry Alden Belcher, thinks the name should be substituted for Randolph, on account of the mass of correspondence she has had to attend to there, and which I understand has resulted in a material increase in the salary of the postmaster.



We are all under deep obligations to her for the vigor and executive ability with which she has pushed this project to success, and while we may not today appreciate this work at its full worth, as the years roll by we shall value it more and more and give thanks for the welding together of the different branches of our family and the friendships formed which only death shall terminate.

Mrs. Emerson Brush, of Chicago, Ill., sang a song called "Owen." It was sung by her great-grandmother, Minerva Tupper, daughter of Gen. Benjamin Tupper, who married Ichabod Nye in about the year 1770.

## OWEN.

Far, far beyond those mountains  
That look so distant here,  
To fight his country's battles,  
Last May-day went my dear.

Oh! well do I remember  
With bitter sighs, the day;  
Why, Owen, didst thou leave me—  
At home why did I stay?

To market at Langaulin  
Each morning do I go;  
But how I strike a bargain  
No longer do I know.

My fayther chides at evening,  
My mither all the day:  
Why, Owen, didst thou leave me—  
At home why did I stay?

But should it please kind heaven,  
To shield my love from harm,  
I'll press him to my bosom,  
And fear no war's alarm!

But oh! I fear far distant  
Is still that happy day;  
Why, Owen, didst thou leave me—  
At home why did I stay?

A paper written by Miss Mary C. Nye, of Marietta, Ohio, on "The Ohio Branch of the Family," was read by Mr. James Nye





of Marietta, Ohio. At the close of the paper he extended a very cordial invitation to the Nye Family, to meet in Marietta in 1904.

“NYES.”

Many years ago a farmer brought a barrel of soft soap to Marietta, Ohio, for a Mrs. Nye, who had ordered it from his wife. The farmer received his pay, spent the money on whiskey which he drank, and returned to his home happy. His thrifty wife demanded the money for the soap. He, being a past master in the art of lying, said “Mrs. Nye didn’t pay me.” Doubting much, the wife went to town and asked Mrs. Nye to pay for the soap. Satisfied of her husband’s perfidy, though not surprised, she went home, where he had wisely remained, and charged him with theft, explaining that she had called upon Mrs. Nye, and had learned the truth. Nothing daunted, he turned upon her with the scorn of superior knowledge and exclaimed, “You didn’t go to the right Mrs. Nye, there’s thousands of them Nyes!”

In looking over the papers of our genealogist, I am convinced that the old man was right—“There’s thousands of them Nyes.”

In 1788-9 two brothers Nye, Ichabod and Ebenezer, entered with their families the territory northwest of the river Ohio, at historic Marietta, and made themselves homes there. For nearly one hundred years the numerous descendants of these brothers were the only Nyes known in southeastern Ohio. All Nyes were Buckeyes, a Yankee Nye had never been known in Marietta.

One day your Mr. William F. Nye, of New Bedford, “dropped in” upon a descendant of Ichabod for a cousinly recognition. Many pleasant surprises grew out of this meeting, and some playful banter about Nye antecedents, as to which should be greatest. In parting, the representative of Ichabod said, “Remember that we are the Tupper-Nyes.” It was not until several years later that this descendant of Ichabod in looking over the old family papers learned the fact that all Nyes starting from Sandwich are Tupper-Nyes, through Katherine Tupper Nye, the mother of all. But the descendants of Ichabod Nye of Marietta are twice Tupper-Nyes, for Ichabod married at Chesterfield, Mass., in 1785, Minerva, daughter of General Benjamin Tupper, of the Revolutionary army, and she, Minerva, was in the sixth generation from Thomas Tupper of Sandwich, the father of Katherine.

Examination of the Nye family record shows that scriptural names were given the children of Benjamin, such as Jonathan and John, Caleb, Ebenezer, and Ichabod, and that these names have come down among us from generation to generation. None of you however, it is safe to say, have ever discovered the surname Nye in your well-read Bibles.



There is a man in Ohio who has named himself Nye, and from Scriptures has proved his right to do it, though he does not, let us hasten to explain, prove his descent from Benjamin of Plymouth Colony.

Not long since we received the following letter in regard to him:

“BELPRE, OHIO, 1903.

“*Dear Cousin:*

“There is a man in this town who calls himself Nye Allender, and who writes his name so, spelling it N-y-e, as we do ours. The other day I asked him where he got the name, as I have an interest in it. He said ‘It comes from the Bible.’ I queried to myself how it could be a Bible name, and then asked him. He replied ‘My name is Ananias.’

(Signed) “JOHN DANA.”

There are many Nyes in America who are not descended from Benjamin and who are not of New England ancestry.

#### THE OHIO NYES.

We have been asked to speak to you of “The Ohio Branch” of the Nye family. Ohio boasts several branches of the Nye tribe, and in trying to become acquainted with them we are in the bewilderment which overtook Pat and Mike Maloney, while visiting a strange town.

“Bedad,” said Mike, “it’s confusion the way the streets here are unnumbered.” “Yis,” said Pat, “they might at laste put up signs, saying what street it ain’t.”

The Buckeye Nyes in northern and western Ohio would indeed think it presuming in us of Marietta to undertake to put up the signs for them and their forbears, nor is it in our power to point out for you the paths followed by hundreds of other descendants of Benjamin Nye who have journeyed from Maine to Mexico City, from Massachusetts Bay to Puget Sound, everywhere making homes for themselves far, far away from Spring Hill. Our genealogist must do that part for us.

In 1635, from Kent County, England, there came to Saugus, now Lynn, in Massachusetts Bay Colony, a lad named Benjamin Nye. His age was fifteen years. He was of an old and honorable family; his parents and brother remained in England. He ventured at this tender age into an almost unexplored wilderness. The same year there arrived in Saugus, Mr. Thomas Tupper, also of Kent County, England. Rev. Philip Nye, the uncle of young Benjamin Nye, was a prominent member of the Massachusetts Bay company, and active in the work of founding the colony. This,





without doubt accounts for the presence there of such a youthful member of the family as Benjamin. There, if not before in England, he knew the Tuppers. In 1637, Plymouth Colony gave to ten men of Saugus, chiefly men from Kent County, England, leave to "view and sit down upon sufficient land for three score families." These ten men of Saugus came and "sat down upon the land," and in 1639, by act of Plymouth Colony incorporated your town and Yarmouth. Among the ten were Mr. Thomas Tupper, the head of a family, in which there was a daughter Katherine, born in England. Young Benjamin Nye had already seen the star of Katherine and he followed it to Sandwich. In 1640 they were married, and thereafter dwelt among the Sandwich people. This Benjamin Nye, and his wife Katherine Tupper Nye, were the forbears of the American family of Nye.

And here for one moment let us recall the memory of Thomas Tupper and Anne, his wife—parents of Katherine Tupper Nye. It may not be known to all of you that Plymouth records contain the following mention of their deaths:

"Thomas Tupper, Sen'r in his 98th year—died 28th March, 1676, at Sandwich."

"Anne Tupper in 90th yr. of her age—died 4th June, 1675, at Sandwich."

Thus their lives were spent at Sandwich and they were laid to their rest among you, but who can tell where their ashes repose?

The Nyes and Tuppers were not, strictly speaking, English Puritans. Both families had come to England from the continent about one hundred years before the Mayflower had landed at Plymouth. Both had eventually allied themselves with the Non-conformists of England. The Nyes in England, through Archbishop Laud, and the Tuppers (devoted Lutherans) in Europe, had suffered persecution for their religious faith. When at last some of them came to America, they tarried not long with the Boston Puritans. They left the Bay Colony ten years before the belief in witchcraft, the seeds of which having been brought from England had begun to take growth. Thus it is worthy of note they escaped participation in the murders which attended that dreadful superstition. It would be impossible here to analyze their motives in coming to Plymouth Colony, but we can readily believe that they saw greater hope for civil and religious freedom under the Mayflower compact than in the Massachusetts Bay Colony which they left.

Let us call them Pilgrim Protestants, for such they were. Protestants as distinguished from Romanists, we believe one will find all their descendants unto this generation. The underlying principle of their religion is "the right of individual judgment, the privilege of everlasting protest."





Benjamin and Katherine Nye reared a large family in Sandwich, among them a son Caleb, who married Elizabeth Wood. The will of Caleb Nye is recorded on the probate records of Barnstable County, Volume 2, pages 185-7, proved May 26, 1704. Caleb had sons Ebenezer, John and Timothy, and three daughters. About 1704 John removed to Rhode Island, where he later owned one of the "first farms on the Main" consisting of "173 acres of land for which he paid 245 pounds." There he married Sarah Cook, of Kingston, in 1710. In 1723, while his five children were still young, John Nye died, and one of the widow's little brood, George, a lad of eight years, was sent to his uncle Ebenezer, at Tolland, Connecticut—for John, the father, owned land at Tolland adjoining that of his brother Ebenezer, and the little lad was to be bred a farmer. Ebenezer Nye thus became his foster parent.

When he reached a suitable age George Nye married the young widow of Jonathan Hatch, Thankful Hinckley, daughter of Ichabod Hinckley of one of your prominent Cape families, that of Samuel Hinckley of Barnstable, and they settled upon their own farm in Tolland, reared their family, were prospered according to their day and generation, and there George died in 1779. His widow, Thankful Hinckley Nye, died in 1802, at the home of her son Jonathan Nye, in Weathersfield, Vt.

[It would be our pleasure to pause here and give place to Mr. Robert W. Thompson, the relative through his wife, and the genealogist of the Tolland Nyes. He has a large store of interesting matter concerning them, especially that which concerns Ebenezer Nye, who was an affluent and influential citizen, and one of the incorporators of the town in 1715. We hope that we shall all have opportunity to hear Mr. Thompson speak. It is believed that the greater number of Nyes who emigrated to Ohio are descended from Ebenezer and George of Tolland.]

Tolland, like Sandwich, was settled by a chosen band of men who had ideas and ideals, and strong convictions in regard to civil and religious liberty. Here again appear Barnstable county names: Lathrop, Hinckley, Nye and others. In this atmosphere of freedom Ebenezer Nye and George Nye reared ten sons, and it is not strange that several of these young men became soldiers in the army of the Revolution.

Among them were two sons of George, Jonathan the elder, and Ichabod.

Jonathan Nye served in Colonel Ingis' regiment of the Connecticut line, and after the war he settled in Vermont.

It is with Ichabod that this paper has especially to do, for he was the first Nye to become an Ohio man.

He was born at Tolland, Conn., December 21, 1762. Soon after the death of his father he enlisted in the patriot army.



The following record of his first enlistment is to be found in the State House at Boston: "Ichabod Nye, 1779, age 16, black hair, 5 feet 11 in. high, Porter's Regiment, Cook's Company." From this time until the close of the war he was serving his country in the Northern army. After the close of the Revolutionary war Ichabod Nye went to Chesterfield, Massachusetts, where he married his cousin in the sixth degree, Minerva, daughter of General Benjamin Tupper of the Revolutionary army, who was a cousin of all the Nyes of that period.

Brig. General Benjamin Tupper—born at Stoughton, Massachusetts, March 11, 1738—was a distinguished officer of the Revolution. Having served during the whole of the war with England, he was well known in the army and was a man of large influence among the ex-soldiers and officers, especially in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut.

During the terrible winter of 1777-8 General Tupper was with his regiment at Valley Forge under Washington. There he had every facility for personal intercourse with his chief, often with other officers sitting at his table as a guest.

"In these dark days Washington had turned the attention of officers and soldiers to the valley of the Ohio as a place of refuge to which they might retire should the British army be successful against them. The result of the war made this unnecessary." When the officers and soldiers of the Revolution returned to their homes after the disbanding of the army, they found the people poor, and their places already filled with the rising generation. Few industries were open to them and eight years of army life had in a way caused them to form different habits and to entertain larger ideas than those with which they had left home. The vast territory known as "The Territory of the United States northwest of the river Ohio," still appeared to them a desirable dwelling-place for themselves and their families, though it was a wilderness.

Congress, in 1785, by ordinance provided for the survey of seven ranges of the lands lying west of Pennsylvania and Virginia and bordering on the river Ohio. General Tupper was appointed by Congress to take part in this survey, and in 1785-6 he was engaged in this work. While in the west he visited Major Doughty who was in command at Fort Harmar, at the mouth of the Muskingum, and from what he saw and heard there he became more than ever impressed with the importance of the western country as a place of settlement.

He returned to Massachusetts in January, 1786, and visited immediately his old friend General Rufus Putnam of Rutland. After an all-night conference these two old soldiers united in a publication which appeared in the public papers of New England on the twenty-fifth of January, 1786, headed "Information,"





"dated January 10th, 1786," signed "Rufus Putnam, Benjamin Tupper."

This paper was addressed to any who were inclined to entertain the idea of purchasing land in the Ohio country with a view to settling there.

As a result, various effective forces were brought into joint action and the Ohio Company was formed. One and one-half millions of acres of land bordering on the Ohio above and below the mouth of the Muskingum were purchased of Congress, and on April seventh, 1788, the pioneers and surveyors—one of whom was Major Juselm Tupper, son of General Benjamin—of the Ohio Company after a toilsome journey from New England landed from flatboats at the mouth of the Muskingum and at once set to work to cut the trees and to lay out a town. Here at last we put up the sign for the Ohio Nyes:

IT IS MARIETTA.

MARIETTA AS DISTINCTIVELY A NEW STARTING  
POINT IN OUR NATIONAL HISTORY AS  
PLYMOUTH ITSELF.

"Following the footsteps of our fathers" from the Continent of Europe to England, from England to Massachusetts Bay, from Massachusetts Bay to Sandwich, from Sandwich to Rhode Island and from thence to Tolland, we have not tarried to describe to you our Colonial homesteads, nor the lives there of fathers, wives and mothers. If you now journey with us in our black covered wagons to Marietta you will see us finally in frontier forts and in territorial log cabins.

In June, 1788, General Benjamin Tupper and family, with his son-in-law, Ichabod Nye and family, left Chesterfield, Massachusetts, for a long journey across the Allegheny Mountains, thence down the Ohio River to Marietta, where they were to begin life anew in a country "flowing with milk and honey," yet a wilderness withal, inhabited by Indians and infested with wild beasts.

On the 19th of August, 1788, the boat on which they descended the Ohio landed at the point—Marietta. The passengers (four other families having joined them) found General Rufus Putnam, superintendent of the Ohio Company's affairs, established in a tent (one that had been captured from Burgoyne) near the bank of the Ohio River. They were received with greatest enthusiasm by the inhabitants of the town, who were all men, no families having hitherto arrived. Most of the company remained on the boat that night, but Ichabod Nye placed his wife and infant daughter on a horse and mounting another with his little son he took them directly through a path in the forest to the fort of the Ohio



Company called *Campus Martius*, about three-quarters of a mile distant from the Ohio River. There they lodged that night, the first white mother and the first children to lodge in the town of Marietta. The names of the children were Horace and Panthea Nye, both under three years of age.

The accommodations at *Campus Martius* were dwellings partly finished, with roofs and floors, but with no chimneys. The first meal that night, and meals for weeks after, were cooked in the open air, with fires built against the stumps of trees.

They were now established in this tiny clearing among the trees. Mountains, rivers, and forests were between them and home, and beyond them, stretching north to the great lakes and south and west to the Mississippi was an immense and almost pathless forest. Were not those brave hearts which dared the venture? Marietta has often been called the Plymouth of the West. The flatboat which brought the six families mentioned, and many other families later, was in loving remembrance of the Pilgrims called the Mayflower.

The town might, with greater propriety, have been called a new Sandwich, so similar were many of the conditions attending their settlement. Marietta was not a colony founded like Plymouth specifically with a religious purpose. It was a settlement made by ex-officers and soldiers of the Revolution, who had found themselves at the close of the war impoverished in means, and who, having many tastes and principles in common, desired to live in the same community, where they from necessity also, must establish new homes.

There were gathered in this new town old friends and comrades who entertained high hopes and expectations of greatness for the West, fully realized in our day, though never seen by their believing eyes. Fort Harmar near by, with its garrison of United States soldiers, seemed to afford them protection from the Indians as well as the agreeable society of the officers and their wives. They were content, though all were poor.

The possessions of Ichabod Nye at this time were seventy dollars in money, two horses, a watch, an Ohio Company's warrant for one or more shares of land, a log cabin which he had purchased of a pioneer—outside of the fort,—some utensils and furnishings for keeping house.

The great business of the men in the new settlement was to clear the forests, build cabins for homes, to plant and to sow, and to reap the harvest if possible. For the women the care of the household included all the spinning and weaving of the fabrics from flax and wool which were needed to clothe the family. Life was, in the first days, cheerful and content; none of these occupations were esteemed





hardships while peace and plenty reigned. It was not long before all was changed.

In 1789-90 the Indians became unfriendly and drove the wild game away from the settlement. Then an untimely frost nipped the corn, and it could not be used for food. Salt and sugar could scarcely be obtained, and there was hunger and danger for all. January 1, 1791, war broke out. There was a massacre by the Indians of the occupants of a blockhouse near Marietta. People had to abandon their lands and flee to the several forts and blockhouses of the Ohio Company. Ichabod Nye and his brother Ebenezer, who had joined the settlement, occupied houses in Campus Martius, which was crowded beyond measure. Hunger assailed the settlers, dangers were all around them. Military discipline, armed guards by day and by night were necessary in the forts, and no work could be done outside unless under military guard, and this but seldom. General St. Clair's defeat by the Indians in 1791 increased their distress, and it was not until General Wayne's victory in 1794 that men could go out upon their lands and cultivate them and obtain food and clothing for their families. How the settlers lived through this great peril we have not space now to describe.

The history of a family often illustrates and illuminates the history of one's country. Especially is this true of the pioneer families of the West. Between the planting of the colony at Sandwich and the founding of the settlement at Marietta there were but one hundred and fifty-one years. More than one son of Sandwich joined the Marietta Colony, and the hardships endured in New England were repeated in Marietta. The family life illustrates the process by which that vast wilderness called the Northwest was conquered and peopled (largely by the sons of New England) and how in the short space of one hundred and fifteen years—1788-1903—it has become fitted as it now is for the dwelling place of millions of happy and prosperous freemen. The people of Marietta, Gallipolis, Cincinnati and Vincennes stood from 1790-95 the forlorn hope on the border of that domain which England, through the help of a savage foe, hoped to wrest from us. By their valor, their endurance of perils by day and by night, their fidelity to their trust, they saved the land out of which the five great states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin have since been formed.

In appreciation of our debt to these heroic men and women of the West we quote from an address delivered in Marietta by Dr. Hempstead, son of a pioneer, commemorating the early settlement of the town. "Who," he said, "founded our social institutions? Who gave us our social and religious privileges? Who felled our forests? Who built our homes? Who bestowed upon us the comforts we now enjoy? These have been founded by the pioneers



The first of these is the fact that the British  
government had been in a state of  
anarchy since the death of George III.  
The second is the fact that the British  
government had been in a state of  
anarchy since the death of George III.  
The third is the fact that the British  
government had been in a state of  
anarchy since the death of George III.  
The fourth is the fact that the British  
government had been in a state of  
anarchy since the death of George III.  
The fifth is the fact that the British  
government had been in a state of  
anarchy since the death of George III.  
The sixth is the fact that the British  
government had been in a state of  
anarchy since the death of George III.  
The seventh is the fact that the British  
government had been in a state of  
anarchy since the death of George III.  
The eighth is the fact that the British  
government had been in a state of  
anarchy since the death of George III.  
The ninth is the fact that the British  
government had been in a state of  
anarchy since the death of George III.  
The tenth is the fact that the British  
government had been in a state of  
anarchy since the death of George III.

The first of these is the fact that the British  
government had been in a state of  
anarchy since the death of George III.  
The second is the fact that the British  
government had been in a state of  
anarchy since the death of George III.  
The third is the fact that the British  
government had been in a state of  
anarchy since the death of George III.  
The fourth is the fact that the British  
government had been in a state of  
anarchy since the death of George III.  
The fifth is the fact that the British  
government had been in a state of  
anarchy since the death of George III.  
The sixth is the fact that the British  
government had been in a state of  
anarchy since the death of George III.  
The seventh is the fact that the British  
government had been in a state of  
anarchy since the death of George III.  
The eighth is the fact that the British  
government had been in a state of  
anarchy since the death of George III.  
The ninth is the fact that the British  
government had been in a state of  
anarchy since the death of George III.  
The tenth is the fact that the British  
government had been in a state of  
anarchy since the death of George III.

and warmed by their blood. They have left us a rich inheritance, peace, plenty and happiness."

Marietta was the first born child of the wonderful ordinance of 1787, made, one may say, by Congress to fit especially the principles of the men who formed the Ohio Company, men of New England. The underlying principles of that ordinance were, "Religion, morality, knowledge being necessary to good government, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged."

"There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except for crime, in the territory."

Add to this the system of surveys adopted by Congress in 1785, by which the land was divided into townships six miles square, these townships again into sections, and the division of these sections into farms open to actual settlers, so that each man could and did own his own land, and we have all the essentials for a great, free and happy people.

As has been stated, Ichabod Nye arrived in Marietta, August 19, 1788. From that time until his death it was his home.

One of the imperative needs of a new country is leather.

Ichabod Nye, soon after his arrival at Marietta, undertook to tan some hides.

The history of that enterprise is a page by itself which we cannot detail here.

A hole in the ground, some saplings for poles, a piece of old tent for cover, and hides of elk and buffalo for stock, made the beginning of what in later years became a profitable and extensive business. In writing his account of the starting point of this, the first tannery established in the Northwest Territory, he says:

"I knew nothing of tanning. No one in the settlement knew more than myself, but a tanyard I was determined on at all hazards. I must do something or starve."

After the war Mr. Nye built a real tannery and operated it; also entered into the mercantile business, and true to the traditions of his family he was all of his life engaged in farming.

During the trying days of the settlement he was often called upon for military duty, which as a veteran of the Revolution he was fully competent to perform. When the Ohio state government came into action he was made colonel in the militia (not then an empty title), and was always thereafter known as Colonel Nye.

He was an honored, influential and prosperous citizen. He died November 27, 1840, and it was characteristic of him to have gone to the polls a short time before to vote for William Henry Harrison, though suffering from a heavy cold. This led to his fatal illness. At the time of his death, though only seventy-two years of age, he had been "longer resident, the head of a family, than any other man in the state of Ohio."



In the fifty-two years that he had been a citizen of Marietta, he had seen the territory become a state. He had seen towns and cities spring up in what he had known as unbroken forest. He had seen the people pass from a period of want and danger to plenty and safety. He had seen them pass from the days of the pine knot for light to the luxury of lard oil lamps; from the days when the corn was ground in hand mills to the day of the flouring mills run by water power or by steam; from the days when the flax and wool for clothing were raised, spun and woven on the farm to the day of cotton mills and imported goods. He came to Marietta on horseback, his family by flatboat: he esteemed it a great advance in the progress of the country that he could at pleasure travel by stage-coach or steamboat. His mind was impressed with the industrial and domestic developments of the western country, and the luxuries introduced during his life seemed to him to endanger the morals of the people.

What, then, would be his emotions could he look upon his state and country to-day? The locomotive, electricity chained as it were, telegraphs, telephones, ocean cables, wireless telegraphy, electric lights, trolley cars, natural gas for fuel,—all were unknown in his day. The great steel and iron industries, the war ships, the wonderful bridges, the sky scrapers, would have seemed to the men of his day past belief. To-day our children accept them as the established order.

The children of Colonel Ichabod and Minerva Nye were reared and educated in Marietta. The daughters married men of character and position; as mothers, wives and neighbors they showed themselves worthy of their noble heritage, children of Plymouth Colony. Of five sons, four married, established homes, reared families and died in Marietta, and they rest with their father in Mound Cemetery. The other son, the oldest (the little pioneer boy Horace), settled in Putnam (now Zanesville), Ohio, and reared his family, made his mark as a citizen and is buried there. All these sons were temperate, honorable, just and pure men; they held offices of trust and honor in church, town and state; they upheld the civil law by example and precept; they sustained with their money and personal endeavor schools and churches; their children were brought up in the "fear of the Lord," after the manner of the fathers, and their influence was felt among the people.

These sons had other sons, and so it came about that the family of Ichabod began to be designated in Marietta as the "Nye tribe." Though Marietta is still the tribal home and some still dwell there, many members of the "tribe" are now scattered over the face of the earth. The family life is changing in many ways, and the tribal relations in this and other families are giving way to modern conditions of living, so that children of a common ancestry will, we





believe, in future be less closely allied to one another than formerly.

Before we leave the tribe of Ichabod, however, it may be worth while to mention some marked characteristics of the blood which are likely to persist. Mr. Edgar W. Nye (Bill Nye) said of his parents that "They began life by being honest, and got so into that habit that they could not stop." This recalls to mind the remark of an old resident of our town concerning the Marietta tribe. He was a descendant of General Warren of Bunker Hill, and his death was near. Calling his daughter to his side, he directed her to write a list of those whom he wished her to invite to his funeral. After naming several, he added: "Invite the Nyes, for I have never yet known a Nye who was not an honest man." In this he referred not alone to commercial honesty, but to honest thinking and honest living. He meant that honesty which includes honor and which excludes underhand dealing of any nature.

Out of this characteristic have grown others closely related to it, such as independence in action.

"*Compulsion*," Colonel Ichabod has written, "I ever hated!"

These Nyes do their own thinking, form their own opinions, know their rights and dare maintain them. Such qualities are not always those best calculated to please their fellow citizens, who also have convictions, and the Nyes are not likely to "turn the other cheek" when a blow is given. If there is a battle they fight to win, and an impartial historian must concede that they can record a flattering proportion of victories. However, a battle once won is over with them, and they are incapable, we trust, of malice. They are patriotic, and their sons have been found as soldiers in every war to which their country has called them.

They are religious, as perhaps they must be when one considers their ancestors of the Cape, the Mayhews, the Tupperes, the Lathrops, the Hinckleys, and others of your people of that period; and they are Christians in that they find, as Governor Thomas Mayhew said in dying, "God in Jesus Christ." There is, we believe, perfect tolerance among them toward the religious belief of others.

Whether these characteristics always lean to virtue's side one might call in question, like Professor K. of Marietta College, a warm friend of the family, who, when he was worsted by one of them, exclaimed, "God did not make the Nyes!"

We may therefore conclude that they "just growed."

NOTE—The writer of this paper desires to acknowledge her indebtedness to Miss Laura Virginia Nye, who permitted her to examine notes prepared by Colonel Ichabod Nye, belonging to her father, the late Mr. Dudley S. Nye of Marietta.



Prepared by Miss Mary C. Nye and read by Mr. James W. Nye.

EBENEZER NYE OF RAINBOW, OHIO.

In 1790, Ebenezer Nye, brother of Ichabod, with his family, his wife (Desire Sawyer Nye, whom he had married in Warren, Conn.), five sons and one daughter, arrived in the new settlement, Marietta, expecting to locate at once on a farm. Mr. Melzar Nye, a son of Ebenezer Nye, has written in regard to this venture that his father had "sold his property in Litchfield County, Conn., and had bought a share of land in the Ohio Company's purchase, and with a wagon, two yoke of oxen and a horse had started out for Marietta." When the first evening came this little boy was homesick and asked his father to "go home," but he writes: "Father told me we had no home but the wagon."

Arriving at Marietta, Mr. Ebenezer Nye found that owing to the unfriendly spirit prevailing among the Indians, it would not be possible for him to occupy his land in the Rainbow Allotment, situated near Marietta. He was therefore obliged to tarry in Marietta for several years. He was a Baptist minister and preached at times, but he was anxious to establish his family on a farm. He had six sons, but one daughter only. When the Indian War closed, he and his sons cleared the timber from their land and built a log cabin, which was succeeded later by a substantial brick dwelling. Mr. Nye lived and died on the Rainbow farm. His six sons moved away from Marietta into adjoining counties and were influential and prosperous men in the communities where they lived. It is not possible here to dwell further upon the life of this most useful and excellent man. He died October 29, 1823, at the age of seventy-three. He has many living descendants.

As illustrating life in a new country, its joys and its hardships, we will read you an extract from a paper prepared for the Pioneer Society at Marietta by Mr. Melzar Nye concerning a wedding in the family.

He says: "General Wayne's victory over the Indians in 1794 enabled the settlers to establish themselves once more on their lands, but all the settlers even now were poor. As soon as possible, however, the people moved out of the forts on to their lands. Father had raised a crop at Marietta in 1794, and it was all put in our storehouse there, but we had moved on to our land at Rainbow. There we had a log cabin 18 by 20 feet, two stories high. It had a puncheon floor and was partly chinked. We moved up to our log mansion and felt quite happy that we had a home of our own, and need no longer live in the fort nor fear the Indians. One day father's corn house at Marietta caught fire and burned down with about one hundred bushels of corn and thirty or more bushels of





meal, and broken flax enough to make about two hundred pounds of swingled flax. There was nothing saved. That was all that we had in the world except the land and the cabin. Mr. Olney came up to Rainbow the next morning and told us that the corn house was burnt. Father had intended to go to Marietta that day for a load of corn but when he heard the news, he said, 'I have nothing to go for.' Mr. Olney got some breakfast and made father a present of a bushel and a half of corn, which, in all, made two and one-half bushels until we could raise more. We had five or six bushels of potatoes, which father said we must save for seed. When he got ready to plant the next spring, he found that he had only *one and one-half bushels, for we boys had hooked some and baked them in the woods.* My sister had promised to marry Mr. Pratt that spring. She had spun a web forty yards long to make sheets and clothing. When the news came that the corn house was burned she shed tears, for she said that her web would 'have to be made into shirts for the family,' and so it was, and she put off her wedding until the next spring, and we boys wore the shirts made of her linen for the first time on the fourth of July, 1795. Father had a first-rate crop of flax that year, and got it rolled early, then father and the boys got to work getting it out, mother and sister spinning and weaving. When spring came the articles were ready for sister to go to housekeeping. Then the bridegroom came and with him Uncle and Aunt Nye, and other friends from Marietta, and Squire Munroe, all in canoes. They got there before twelve o'clock, and between one and two sister changed her name to Sarah Pratt. Then the old folks showed their steady habits with a dance, and by kicking all the splinters off the puncheon floor until it became smooth. The next day sister's things were put into a canoe, and bride and bridegroom and the others started for Marietta."

The President then introduced Hon. Stephen A. Nye of Fairfield, Me., who gave an account of the Maine branch of the family.

**MR. PRESIDENT, THE COMMITTEE, AND LADIES AND GENTLEMEN :**

A few months ago I read a notice in the *Boston Globe* that there was to be a reunion of the Nye family at Sandwich, a place I had heard my father speak of many times. To-day I find myself here mingling with the Nye family, the genealogy of which has been so ably presented to you with a full and detailed account from the beginning up to where I was made acquainted with my grandfather. And I must say at this time that I have been so deeply impressed with the strong alliance of the Nye family that I have had hardly a moment to think that I should be called upon this stage, but,





ladies and gentlemen, the gentlemen who preceded me, if I remember rightly, spoke of the ancestors living or arriving on the western border in 1789, and I could not but think that my grandfather and his two brothers landed in 1788 in the town of Fairfield, Me.; and as I have been told by those who have gone before me and by the records that Elisha, Bartlett and Bryant Nye, three brothers, coming to the mouth of the Kennebec River in 1788, and were thirteen days arriving there from Sandwich, and they took a canoe to proceed up the Kennebec River to Augusta, where they shouldered their bags and walked twenty miles to Fairfield, and located their cabins on what is now called Ohio Hill. They were, as I understand it, the fourth generation from Benjamin Nye, and I am the seventh.

I have a detailed account of their descendants down to the present time, but it would be wasting time and asking too much of you for me to read the names of these families. Suffice it to say that Elisha Nye had a large family of eleven children; Bartlett Nye, the brother that I am descended from, a family of twelve children; and Bryant Nye, the other brother, a family of thirteen children, and the names were handed down from 1788 to my time, three generations, from which in the same line that has been presented to you as corresponding with your record as I know. To-day that is about all I shall have to say in regard to the detailed account of these families. I will say, however, that in Fairfield from those families there are now perhaps twenty-five persons by the name of Nye, and I should say as near as I could ascertain from the short time that I have been looking the matter up, that there are not over eighty in the state.

I have a few remarks to make in regard to the Nye family in Fairfield. The Nye family have some peculiar characteristics. That is a point that I am impressed with. In the first place, I believe one of their greatest characteristics is they always know what they want for a partner, and when they select a wife it is most always a good one, and I couldn't help thinking of that matter when I listened to the history of old Benjamin Nye. Why, he must have been the strongest blooded man that ever came to this country. Way down to the seventh generation the Nye family are first in war, first in business, first in Christianity, and particularly first in morality, and I am only talking from experience—the past records will guarantee my assertion. I might go on and mention the names of different ones in Maine who have held some of the most important positions of trust and honor, but as it would only be in keeping with the first principles of the stanch old Benjamin and wife Katherine, I will not trespass further upon your time. I am happy to meet you, citizens of Cape Cod and of Sandwich. I am happy to-day. Perhaps I never shall see you again, but if I live



and can walk, and that reunion comes next year in Ohio, I shall be there. I have had more pleasure in coming to Sandwich than I would have in going on in my business affairs for ten years, no matter what success I might find. This is living, to meet the Nye family in reunion of this kind! Look back and see if the Nye family has not had something to do with the shaping of this country. They have had their share in building up meeting-houses, schoolhouses, business and everything else in this country. I have never been ashamed of the name of Nye. They have been first in everything. There never was a schoolhouse or a log cabin too humble for them to meet in and get down and pray and get up and talk of the higher life.

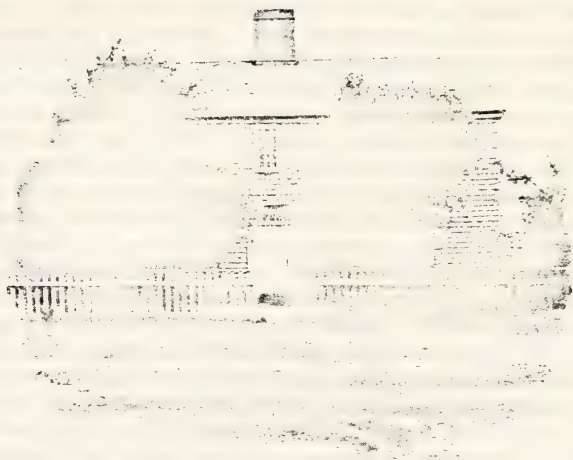
I thank you, ladies and gentlemen, the committee, and Mr. President, that I have come to this place. I have been well repaid, and I hope I shall meet you again at the second reunion and every reunion until I pass away.

Mrs. Jerome Holway of Sandwich read a very interesting paper on the Tupper house. Her description of the old house and how it must have looked when Katherine was young was a very pleasant feature of the morning meeting.

The Tupper House! What memories these old oaken timbers, hewn from the virgin forest, could tell us! From Plymouth to the trading post at Manomet came ten men of Saugus, then pushing on to Scussit Harbor until here near Town Neck they began the foundation of this town. On horseback, on foot, they came, through the forest, over hills and across streams, following the Indian trail, the footprint of the savage proving a path for the colonist. The spot that Thomas Tupper had chosen for his house was about ten rods from the path facing south, so that in the winter the noonday sun shone direct upon the front of the house, thus marking time. A temporary cover for the cattle and a rude booth first were erected, and then began the building of the house. With his trusty broad-axe and his gun Thomas Tupper went out to work with a will; the sons, the daughters and the mother all did their share and labored together willingly and unceasingly. These were days without hurry, and neither time nor effort was valued. These huge timbers which we see to-day were hewn from the mighty white oaks. The sill was laid on the ground above the floor and came out into the room all around, thus forming a convenient seat for the children. The side of the house was framed and then pinned together with huge wooden pins. When it was ready, one writer tells us, "All the world came to the raising, and also some Indians." The spaces between the







TUPPER HOUSE.

Supposed to have been built in 1637.

*Said to have burned 1721*



poles, which extended from the sill to the plate above, were filled in with stones and clay, thus making firm walls, and the roof was covered with thatch. Afterward as the family grew and circumstances improved, the two big rooms in front were added, with the summer beams overhead, 12 x 12, running parallel with the front wall, while upstairs in the two front chambers they ran across the other way, thus insuring greater strength. The rafters were as large as the sills are now, and it seems strange how they could get them into place with the meagre appliances they possessed. A great door opened into the kitchen, where the massive chimney, made of stone, gave opportunity for the eight-foot fireplace and oven to the right, where a tall housewife might tend her baking while standing erect. The English crown claimed sovereignty here on the ground that its subjects had discovered the country, but our fathers purchased from the Indian chiefs every acre of land they possessed and paid for it in coats and kettles, knives and rifles, spoons, powder and rum. We find in the Lynn records that in 1635 Dennis Geere made bequests of land in this locality to several of his friends, and among them we find the names of Thomas Tupper and Benjamin Nye. We must remember right here that these sixty families that came in the ship *Abigail* from Kent County, England, were not like the Pilgrims, driven from their home by persecution, seeking a country they knew not where. These families came to take up land granted by the king, with the hope of building for themselves a city where they could enjoy perfect freedom for themselves and be free from the many restrictions of church and state. They had cool, calculating business plans also, for in the fifteen years since 1620 it had come to be well understood that there were infinite possibilities for American trade, well worthy the interest of business men. They came in July, and although they had to be six weeks on the voyage, yet they were comfortable and prosperous. It was warm summer weather, they had plenty of food and before them no dread possible suffering or poverty. They brought with them from England much of the surroundings of their old home, and so, when they built their houses, they were fashioned like those they had left. They brought their old carved chests and furniture and a supply of linen and pewter.

Capt. Thomas Tupper, as he was called in the early records, was a man of importance in the new settlement. He was clerk of the records, and under his supervision was built the first meeting-house. He was of the sturdy type so common in those days, and although tinged with fanaticism, was one of two, Richard Bourne being the other, that preached every Sunday until a regular minister was appointed. Both men had their followers, as we read that "when it was time for meeting to begin the one who had the larger number of adherents was preacher for that Sunday." But we have no



record that the other faction went home. After the appointment of a regular minister, Thomas Tupper turned his attention to the Indians, of whom there were one hundred and eighty that he taught regularly. He had time, however, to bring up his children as became a Puritan.

We can seem to see his daughter Katherine, her red cheeks fanned by the breeze, as she returns from a visit to a neighbor only a mile or two away, for neighbors were counted near at that distance if only the acres between were theirs. A good-hearted, healthy girl, demure and self-contained, a charming picture she made coming down the path, her snowy kerchief crossed over her breast upon her homespun gown. Those brown hands are ever busy, spinning, weaving and sewing, helping to pick the bayberries for the tallow, gathering the rushes for scouring the pewter, and the roots and herbs for medicines and seasoning. She is busy for she has a lover, and that meant in those days marriage.

Benjamin Nye was a sturdy youth of sixteen when this band came to Sandwich. The records tell us he was able to bear arms, and he knew also how to use a broadaxe, for in 1640 we know that on his land at Spring Hill he had reared a house and was now ready for his bride.

Everybody got married in those days. They married early and often. After only ten days of widowhood one woman married an impatient governor. Higginson speaks of "an ancient maid of twenty-five years." No more embarrassing condition could exist than to be unmarried. There were no housekeepers to be found, and indeed it is probable they would not have been allowed by the town officials to serve in that capacity. Bachelors were rare and were held in general disfavor and almost in the position of suspected criminals. They had to pay twenty shillings a week to the town if they wanted the selfish luxury of living alone. They were encouraged to marry by the assignment of a home lot to build upon. Benjamin Nye had land of his own and now had a house. He was not like a man in Plymouth at this time, who was "fined five pounds for making a motion of marriage to a maiden without formal consent of her parents." For he was well and favorably known to Katherine's parents, and the courting was done decently and in order at one side of the old fireplace. The pine knots lighted the room with their ruddy glare, dying away to give a chance for a hasty kiss, only to be replenished again by the watchful mother. The pewter, bright with recent scouring, reflected the glow from the long mantel above the fireplace, and happiness reigned supreme. They turn over the pages of the old Bible, looking for a text for a sermon which shall be preached on the Sunday their betrothal is announced. They turned by Leviticus and Exodus and linger long over Solomon's Song, finally choosing one just suited to the occa-





sion. The banns must be published three times and then comes the wedding day. A few articles of finery brought from the old home are worn on this occasion, in spite of the Puritan disfavor for display. Friends are invited and all work is suspended in the village, while the neighbors from far and near, "all the world," come to the marriage. The magistrate, licensed by the king to perform marriages, is there in the great front room, where all the guests are assembled. A psalm is sung, then the simple marriage service and the prayer, followed by the serving of cake and the drinking of sack posset. This was made from ale and sack, thickened with eggs and cream, seasoned with nutmeg, mace and sugar, and boiled for hours. Then all was joy and merriment, and as twilight came on Benjamin Nye led his wife Katherine down the woodland path to her new home.

The meeting then adjourned.

The afternoon of Thursday, August 6, was spent in visiting historic places in the town, among which was the old Tupper House, supposed to have been built in 1637, and is said to be the oldest house in Sandwich. It has always remained in the possession of the family, and is today occupied by Mr. Russell Tupper, a direct descendant of Thomas.

The old burying ground, where many of the Nyes are buried, was a most interesting place to visit. At the present time there are fifty-two Nye stones standing. The oldest stone marks the grave of John, the oldest son of Benjamin first, who died in 1722, age 79 years.

From four until six o'clock, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Alden Belcher, received the family at their summer home, "The Overlook." A concert at the Casino was the evening's attraction.

The stage was beautifully decorated with the continental colors, buff and blue. Suspended from the centre of the stage was a gold letter "N," and on either side was a date, "1637" on the left, "1903" on the right.

Oak leaves and flowering plants lent color to the scene. The concert was in charge of Mr. Augustus S. Nye of Boston, and was a most enjoyable affair.

The following artists took part: Mrs. Emerson Brush and



Miss Edith V. Ellsbree, sopranos; Miss Izetta B. Holway, contralto; Mr. Harold S. Tripp, tenor; Mr. Augustus S. Nye, baritone; Mr. James McLaughlin, Jr., pianist.

Friday morning the meeting was called to order by the President. After singing the hymn, "It Singeth Low in Every Heart," the report of the committee appointed to formulate a plan for organization was read. The report, as read by Hon. David J. Nye, was as follows:

TO THE NYE FAMILY OF AMERICA IN REUNION ASSEMBLED AT  
SANDWICH, MASS., AUGUST 5, 6 AND 7, 1903:

We, your committee to whom was referred the matter of a permanent organization of an association of the Nye family, would respectfully submit the following recommendations:

*First.* That a permanent association be organized to be known as "The Nye Family of America."

*Second.* That any descendant of Benjamin Nye, who settled in Sandwich in 1637, and his or her husband, wife, widow or widower, may become a member of said association on the payment of a fee of one dollar, and remain a member of said association on the payment of the annual dues of one dollar per year.

*Third.* That the officers of said association shall be a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, an Assistant Secretary, a Treasurer and an Executive Committee consisting of ten members and at least one additional member from each state and territory having a membership in said association.

*Fourth.* That the first officers of said association shall be as follows: William L. Nye of Sandwich, Mass., President; George H. Nye of Auburn, N. Y., Vice-President; Mrs. Henry Alden Belcher of Randolph, Mass., Secretary; Mrs. Annie Nye Smith of Boston, Mass., Treasurer.

That the Assistant Secretary shall be such person as the Secretary may appoint.

That the officers of said association shall hold their offices until the close of the next reunion, and all officers hereafter elected shall hold their offices until the close of the next succeeding reunion after their election.





*Fifth.* That the first Executive Committee shall be composed of the following named persons:

Charles H. Nye . . .	Hyannis, Mass.
William F. Nye . . .	Fairhaven, Mass.
Everett I. Nye . . .	Wellfleet, Mass.
Levi S. Nye . . .	Sandwich, Mass.
David D. Nye . . .	Cataumet, Mass.
Hon. William A. Nye . .	Bournedale, Mass.
James L. Wesson . . .	Boston, Mass.
William P. Nye . . .	Providence, R. I.
Mrs. William L. Nye . .	Sandwich, Mass.
Mrs. S. Curtis Smith . .	Newton, Mass.
Miss Mary E. Nye . . .	Sandwich, Mass.
Miss Grace Nye . . .	Milwaukee, Wis.
Dr. Fremont Nye . . .	Westerly, R. I.
James W. Nye . . .	Marietta, Ohio
Loyal Nye . . .	Binghamton, N. Y.
Hon. Stephen A. Nye . .	Fairfield, Me.
William Fessenden Jackson .	Newark, N. J.

That the officers of said association shall be *ex-officio* members of said Executive Committee.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

DAVID J. NYE, *Chairman.*

FREMONT NYE, *Secretary.*

F. H. A. NYE.

GEORGE H. NYE.

WILLIAM F. NYE.

JOHN W. NYE.

S. A. NYE.

This report was accepted and its recommendations adopted.

The President, Vice-President and Secretary thanked the association for the honor they had conferred upon them.

On motion of Hon. David J. Nye of Ohio it was voted that the first reunion of the permanent organization of the Nye family be held in Sandwich in 1904, and that the members of



the family in Marietta, Ohio, receive a vote of thanks for their proffered hospitality.

Voted that the time of the next reunion be left in the hands of the Executive Committee.

On motion of Judge Nye it was voted that a vote of thanks be extended to the officers and committee for the splendid manner in which they have conducted this reunion, and to the citizens of this community for the kindness and courtesy which they have extended to this association.

A vote of thanks was extended for the use of the church in which the meetings were held.

Following the business meeting, a very entertaining paper, written by Mrs. S. Curtis Smith of Newton, Mass., on "The Women of the Family," was read by Mrs. Smith, who said:

I have been asked to speak upon this occasion about "The Women of the Nye Family" to an audience largely made up of my own relatives.

At the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of this town the orator of the day said he was first of all "struck in looking over the town records by the fact that everybody was related, either by birth or marriage, to everybody else; that Sandwich folk of the old stock seemed to be *all* more or less cousins." While I find in looking over the records of the Nye family that matrimonially they have intermingled so frequently and so freely, throughout each generation, that the family seems like "one great cousinry."

I also find that in a great number of the families the daughters far outnumbered the sons. My own paternal great-grandfather's family started and ended with a son, with six daughters sandwiched in between, while in each of my father's and grandfather's families the girls outnumbered the boys two to one.

It is said that women are one-half the people, and probably they are the larger half of the Nye family, and this is one reason why our Secretary has had so great difficulty in reaching all the descendants of Benjamin Nye, to invite them to our family party.

I have frequently been told that the Nyes were a clannish race, but I find that all the old families of early times showed they were particular about their family affiliations. I quote the advice of an old farmer to his daughter, in the parlance of those days: "Now, Polly, I don't want you to keep company with that Jerry Jones;



not that he isn't good enough, but then he ain't exactly our sort of folk."

The town records accord to women scant mention beyond dates of birth, marriage and death, with a possible date of smallpox.

We read upon ancient tombstones the commendatory and pathetic tributes of bereaved husbands, who extolled the wifely virtues and Christian character of their consorts. We all know how the poet Longfellow has immortalized, in "Miles Standish's Courtship," the picturesque Priscilla Mullins, while the romance writer has pictured in roseate glow the quaint colonial maiden, Mary Chilton, whose foot was the first to press the Plymouth Rock; but the historians rarely refer to the helpmates of the early settlers, but perhaps they thought they could not do justice to them if they attempted.

These patient, godly women, living in a wilderness, exposed to the treacherous Indian and the prowling wild beasts of the forest, while they endured hardships of almost every nature, were moulding the characters of their children, and with a superhuman clearness of vision were directing them to rely upon the Higher Power, and teaching them courage, faith and self-reliance. The present and the future writers can better tell of that unseen and silent influence which developed the heroes and heroines who, during the dark days of the Revolution, conquered in the unequal struggle, and gave to us our fair inheritance.

As the students of Babylon and Nineveh delve in the bowels of the earth, among the ruins of ancient cities and tombs, to bring to light the history of long-forgotten nations, so we, enthused by the same spirit, though we go in an opposite direction, climb up the old garret stairs of our ancestral homes. We rummage the ancient chests and hiding places to find old letters, diaries and journals, that we may catch a glimpse of the home life and the daily struggle of our ancestors. We wish our children to cherish the memory of the noble thought and action of those whose blood courses in their veins.

It has been less difficult to learn about our women during and since the Revolution than to find out much about our "far away grandmothers" of colonial days. Our foremothers, who themselves had inherited the energy and persistency of their Danish ancestors together with their English love of home, being placed, as they were, in an environment which developed independence, strict economy, untiring industry, have produced a race of sons and daughters who have exerted a marked influence in all the various walks of life. The doctrine of evolution has in our day brought the principles of heredity into special prominence, yet we are influenced as much by environment. Our characters and those of our children are affected by the houses we live in and by our





surroundings, and for this reason I think the houses in which our grandams lived "merit" (as Cooper always said in introducing a scene) "a particular description," for here they wrought, reared their children and exerted their beneficent influence.

There are houses in our ancient town that have sheltered generations of Nyes; built of timbers, roughhewn from the native oak, which have withstood the vicissitudes of time, wind and weather and still are sound and strong as iron, but by no means do they represent in aspect the style of houses *first* erected, as they have been added to, raised up, repaired and adjusted to the improved conditions of succeeding generations, until but little remains of the original roof-trees; and bitterly we deplore, not the bettered condition of the descendants, but the ruthless way in which the old landmarks have been demolished.

The old house in which I was born, which had sheltered generations of my family, was torn down many years ago, but the strong timbers, weatherboards and several doors are in the house I occupy today. It seems as if our trend of life was in a circle, for the longer we live the nearer and closer we draw to our earliest home and its associations. Is it strange that in dreams, then, the old home, and not the new, always comes to me? I walk the little grassy path flanked on the house side with its old-time flowers,—the pink, the jessamine, the cinnamon and hundred-leaved rose. I sit upon the large round stone by the old doorway and look into happy faces of brothers and sisters and loving mates. We coast down long hills and glide over glassy ponds. We tell stories by the great fireplace and watch the circling flames that divide and flare round the pots and kettles hanging on the swinging crane, while our "Tallman sweets" on the wing-brushed hearth are "sputtering in a row." I see the door to the big oven close by fly open, and how dexterously from that long-handled peel the great loaf, the shape of a beehive, slides off into the dark depths of the oven and settles down beside the pot of beans and the near-by Indian pudding, flanked by pies and cakes. How safely the long-handled dipper *lands* the sweet pumpkin in successful trips into those sloppy pies, which could not be trusted, as the apple and mince, with their full weights.

In dreams I play tag around the old chimney or "hide and seek" through the great chambers, while the falling latch or the creaking floor betrays the little stowaways; the older and the bolder open the door into the dark "bugaboo" room and stand on the broad beams beside the old chimney, which took up a large square of the centre of the house.

I wander through the old chambers, and see the high-posted bedstead with its mountain height, and watch the coal-filled warming pan as it runs up and down and through the icy sheets, to warm



the bed for a wintry guest, which now, so innocently, with its shining, brassy face, stands by my fireside, a souvenir of "ye olden time."

I dream of the rainy-day frolics in the big old garret filled with relics of the long ago. Here are all the wheels of various names used in household manufacture of the past, together with barrels and chests and trunks bulging with much of interest to childish eyes. Here I read my first books of romance, found in an old hair trunk. Here, in dreams, I see enacted the tournament; here, gallant knights and cavaliers "step the mesuré" with grand ladies in stiff brocade, high heels and towering hair; here we find the missing bride in the oaken chest; here elfs and fairies dance in the moonlight that strikes aslant the long uneven floor, and hobgoblins look down from the creaking rafters, while the fierce winds howl and the angry waves lash against the shore.

The "old-fashioned houses" we see about us today luxuriate in a superfluity of beams, a foot or more in thickness. They suggest a plentiful supply of timber. The beams not only form corner ornaments in the rooms, but the ceiling of the low-studded rooms is divided in the centre by one running the whole length.

One historian tells us that there are no houses on the Cape built by our very earliest settlers standing today; but I have had a few described, and on several occasions I have had pointed out to me suggestions of these old homes of my ancestors, and tradition accurately confirms the theories.

I remember in childhood of seeing ancient lilac bushes, which flanked either side of a broad stone, sunken now, together with the chimney stones, into a cellar hole, all overgrown with turf and weeds, which to me were silent witnesses of an open door in and out of which passed the goodwife and her troop of children in "the long ago." It was on a sunny knoll, sheltered by the rising hills, in full view of gushing springs, the source of a little brook that widened into the creek that pursued its serpentine course through the marsh meadows, until it forced its tired waters through a gap in the long stretch of low sand dunes and mingled them with those of the bay.

Here were the sparse remains of an old stone wall, fringed by the "bouncing Bets," which testified to the untiring energy and labor of the father, who had cleared the ground of stones which nature had so abundantly scattered all over our Cape, and put a bound between his home and the world beyond.

Here the long-lived locust tree, surrounded by a circle of younger growths of various generations, had covered the ground where once waved the pretty drooping blue flowers of the flax and the dull colored blossoms of the hemp, the tasselled corn and the sweet scented clover. The old scrimpy, one-sided apple trees, which stretched





their bare, suppliant arms towards the sea, once shook luscious fruit from their leafy boughs upon the grassy carpet beneath. The topmost dying branches of an old gnarled oak serve as a home for the woodpeckers, as their circular holes attest; while the lower limbs, which have defied the winds of centuries, still shelter nestling birds that sing in the leafy boughs as birds sang in the long ago when children played beneath its shade and gathered the wild strawberry and the single-leaf rose. So the lilac bushes, the "garden strays" by the old wall, the orchard and all tell of a hearthstone where parents and children, youths and maidens, lived and loved in the early days of this Nye settlement.

The fascination of the "long ago," which we all like so well to "romance about" and so few of us would like to live in, would depart if we were to enter one of the very earliest homes in which our grandams lived, for within we find no luxuries and few comforts as we consider them today. First, we should notice the enormous chimney in the centre, which is the great heart of the house. It represents the life, warmth, food and cheer for the whole family. The big fireplace, built with ledges high up above the flames, on which rests a long green pole from which dangle the pothooks and chains of various lengths, beneath the clavey or cavel-piece. Children sit within the recesses of the fireplace and watch the dancing flames leap up towards the twinkling stars, in plain view, or shrink from the gusty wintry winds that come whirling down its wide throat. We find our dame in her everyday attire, a simple short gown or petticoat, made from homespun wool or linen, woven in stripes or checks. Sometimes she wears a linsey-woolsey, two-thirds of linen and one of wool. A kerchief or small shawl is worn across her shoulders, which covers all defects of fit or style, as "charity covers a multitude of sins." Fashion did not lead our primitive mothers such a dance as the whirligig of time brought to her giddy daughters and her gorgeously arrayed sons of the eighteenth century.

I have gathered from many sources that the women of our family were noted for their household thrift and extreme neatness. In New England parlance, "they were facultied." They excelled especially in the culinary art, and as far as I know their descendants have not "gone back on their inheritance." I am told their pewter rivalled silver, and their wooden ware was white as the driven snow. The floors were white and sprinkled with sand and wrought into artistic patterns by the flourish of the wing brush or the Indian birch broom.

While earthenware and iron kettles were early made in the colonies, our grandams brought over the seas, in their strong chests, English pewter and brass ware, Holland linen, and the Sunday-go-to-meeting clothes of both master and mistress, while the children were garbed in homespun apparel.



Many varieties of our native trees furnished material for the most common and necessary dishes and utensils for their everyday use. Men and boys whittled by the evening firelight, cutting and shaping dishes from maple and poplar, while their mothers and sisters spun the flax. The pewter plates, basins and tankards, as well as the porringers, with their filigree handles, and little ones called posnets, were prized by our dames as highly as they are today by our antique collectors. The poet thus alludes to them:

“The porringers that in a row  
Hung high and made a glittering show.”

The spoons were mostly made from the old pewter plates and dishes, which in turn were run into bullets during our Revolutionary War, by our grandmothers for their husbands and sons, while they returned to the use of the wooden ware of the seventeenth century.

We find our dame surrounded by a troop of children. Large families were welcomed in those days. Children were a blessing as well as extra producers. In division of land, heads counted.

The Nyes were greatly indebted to the “spindle side” of the house for their proverbially “getting on in the world,” for their consorts contributed much of the physical and mental vigor to the family. That the rearing of large families did not unstring their nerves, furrow the brow and turn their hair gray is well vouched for in a pleasing little instance related of one of our Nye forbears, who is described as both “pretty and witty.” A young man, charmed by her “mien and manner,” addressed her in most flattering terms, while they were jogging along inside of a stagecoach, a means of conveyance still within our memory, with these words: “A pretty child, madam, you hold in your lap. Your first. I know.” “Yes,” she replied, “the first of the second dozen.” This reply so amused their fellow passengers and so dismayed this flattering youth, who had nearly lost his heart over this mother of thirteen children, that he retreated to the outside of the coach amid a roar of laughter.

The very earliest account we have of the women of our family would lead us to think the daughters of the Nye family, in those days, were attractive, as the annals of the General Court refer to a little dispute between certain parties, settled with fear and trembling, lest some ambitious swain should lose the love of the beautiful daughter of Benjamin the first.

As little record as we find concerning their young children, we see a great deal of pious sentiment was shown in naming the newcomers. Among the earliest names we find a large majority of Hebrew extraction, and their Biblical meaning carried much





weight: Ebenezer, "The Stone of Help;" John, "The Gracious Gift of the Jehovah;" Barnabas, "Son of Consolation;" Joseph, "He Shall Add;" Hannah, "Grace;" and Abigail, "Father's Joy." Every shade of sentiment, state of mind, or emotion of the parents of early times was shown in the naming of their children. If not considered a digression, I would like to refer to a few instances. One poor colonial parson gave vent to his feelings by naming his first little girl "Mara," for he said, "Call me Mara, for the Lord has dealt very bitterly with me. I went out full, and the Lord has brought me home empty." One named three of his children in succession (I don't know the gender), "Return," "Believe" and "Tremble." A little boy, whose father died before his birth, was named "Abiel," meaning "God is my Father," and poor little "Father Gone" echoed forever to the world his pitiable orphanage, by his forlorn name. Of a later date I note a custom among the women, when the second wife magnanimously named her first little girl after her predecessor, a constant reminder to her of her husband's "first love."

These religious ancestors of ours had inherited a superstitious belief in the mystical, occult influence of the planetary system. The planet in ascendancy at the birth of a child portended the good or ill luck for it through life. Hence we find in our family Bibles the accurate entry of the minute and hour, as well as the month and year, of the advent of the little stranger.

Our women, as far as I can learn, in common with others of that day, worked hard, reared large families, and were intensely religious. No storm was bad enough nor illness so severe as to deter them from going to the house of the Lord on the Sabbath day. The services were their meat and drink. It was in their thoughts throughout the week; it was the sum total of their religious, intellectual and social feasts. While we deplore what we read and hear concerning those cold meeting-houses, two-hour-long sermons, endless prayers and unmusical singing, I believe they really loved them all. Saturday afternoon was devoted to preparation for the Sabbath. The weekly ablutions, unbefitting the holy day, were attended to. The tangled locks of the boys were straightened, and, if too long, the mother's knitted garter was bound about their foreheads, while she snipped the hair that fell beneath. The catechism was duly gone over. Oliver Wendell Holmes thus describes a Puritan Sabbath:

"Hush, 'tis the Sabbath's silence-stricken morn,  
No feet must wander through the tasselled corn,  
No merry children laugh around the door,  
No idle playthings strew the sanded floor;  
The law of Moses lays its awful ban on all that stirs."





Who could help feeling a sympathy for that little boy in Connecticut who, as he walked to church with his grandfather, a deacon, joyously remarked upon the beauty of a little squirrel that jumped across his path, when he got a sharp rebuke from his grandfather, who said, "Squirrels are not to be spoken of on the Sabbath day," as well as a good twist of his ear. I know a large branch of our ancestral tree hangs over into the Nutmeg State, but I sincerely hope that deacon was not a Nye.

The mother was the first teacher. She taught her children the Lord's Prayer, passages from the Bible, and to answer the questions in the catechism. Their a, b, c's and their abs they learned from the New England Primer, and they revolved in their minds the mystical rhyme, "In Adam's fall we sinned all." The New England Primer was the most universal schoolbook ever used in America for over a hundred years, being frequently printed and much used for another century. In early days the colonies were all true to the king, and the rhyme for "K" read, "King Charles the Good," which was changed in the years of the Revolution to "Kings and queens are gaudy things." In later times, however, having lost their vindictive feelings towards the "gaudy things," they returned to their Biblical love, and in an edition I have it reads, "Proud Korah's troop was swallowed up."

If in earlier times female education had been unpopular and it had been fashionable to ridicule it, there was no mistaking which way the wind was blowing when, in 1776, we read of Abigail Adams writing to her husband, when he was away helping to make the Declaration of Independence, "If we mean to have heroes, statesmen and philosophers, we must have learned mothers." I have every reason to believe, from all I glean from letters, that the women of our family were among the foremost in the education of their families, and that the girls were not discriminated against. Girls were sent to good schools, books were bought and brought into the homes, not only studied, but learned by heart. I find among the old books in my possession Greek and Latin lexicons, French dictionaries, several editions of Virgil's "*Æneid*," Homer's "*Iliad*," Xenophon's "*Anabasis*," and a long line of schoolbooks dating back a hundred years, that were used by both the boys and the girls of former generations. An elderly lady of my acquaintance in Newton tells me she still cherishes the memory of a very lovely aunt of mine (whose name was Love Nye), who gave her her first lessons in Latin and French, when a little miss, at a once famous boarding school.

School teaching seems to have been a very popular vocation among our women. There have been generations of them, and still the art is very creditably sustained by the family, as we have representatives today distinguished for their high attainments.



Almost every letter I have received from the different branches of the family tells me of the wonderful success of the women teachers of our blood, and throughout the West may be found also many delightful homes whose presiding genius is the once popular teacher.

Our early mothers were famous herb gatherers, and the farmer did not harvest his crop of grains more carefully than did his good wife "lay in" her stock of tansy, wormwood, dock, pennyroyal, catnip and sage. She culled each in the right phase of the moon, and knew just how to concoct her "simples." In the place of doctors she administered them with unstinted hand. In the days of early spring she lined up her troop of boys and girls, well or ill, willing or unwilling, to take their dose of "spring bitters." She also served the children with tansy pancakes, while to the "grown-ups" she gave for a "goneness" tansy bitters. It is not necessary to tell how she made them. From these notable ancestresses have evolved our successful women practitioners, who so ably treat the suffering humanity of today and add a goodly number to the already long list of physicians of our family who have practised the Æsculapian art through many generations.

These versatile mothers understood the various flowers on the farm, as well as all about the roots and barks of our native trees. They knew what to compound with the golden rod, pokeberry, balsam and the sassafras to make their beautiful dyes. They knew just what colors could be obtained from witch hazel, butternut bark, gallberry leaves, sumac berries, yellow laurel and wild indigo. They made the domestic ink for the family. Each boy and girl carried to school his or her own ink bottle or horn, filled with ink of mother's manufacture, as well as made their first "pothooks" with the quills drawn from her old goose, whittled into a pen by the teacher. You see they were also chemists.

They brewed the mead (the drink of the Druids) and made light drinks from sassafras, hickory nuts, birch bark and juniper berries, with fruit wines and cordials. In Revolutionary times they made tea from raspberry leaves, and there are as many as seventeen different herbs and beans mentioned that were made into drinks, for our women would drink no English tea nor wear any foreign apparel. The receipts I found for making "winkum," clove water and orange bitters (the latter usually served to pallbearers) we find no use for in our day. I am glad to say right here that the early temperance movement found favor with our women and they were its loyal supporters, and through their efforts strong drink was banished from the "festive board;" and though there may have been suspicious looking decanters and demijohns in dark cupboards to which the sterner sex retreated, the menace of this old-time hospitality was removed, and the mothers took their stand, and no longer





was Santa Cruz rum served to the parson, who had often returned to his home quite tipsy after a round of parochial calls upon his rural flock.

The mistress showed how well she could keep her accounts of milk, butter and eggs by her chalk marks on the dark side of the cellar or buttery door. She was exact, honest, as well as shrewd.

The mothers who braided the hats for their farmer boys from the rye straw, and sewed and pressed them over a block, and made those reeded bonnets, called calashes, for their girls, set the pace for the later-day modish milliners who so skilfully turn lace, ribbons, flowers and feathers into such lovely, exquisite works of art.

All the girls found time to work their samplers, beginning with the alphabet, working the letters in various styles and sizes, followed by the numerals, the name and age of the little lady, and sometimes a verse of Scripture, or one of her own composition was added. I have seen some with beautiful borders, and in the lower corners often the most impossible birds and roses, trees and houses. Yet the æsthetic grandmothers, who gave vent to their untutored fancies in this direction, as well as in the pictures they drew though out of perspective and highly colored, showed an æsthetic taste which the artists of our family have cultivated, and with good masters and close application show their genius to the world, and are our pride and joy. We have dainty embroidered baby caps, kerchiefs and tuckers, many edged with the old-time laces so dear to the hearts of our refined and dignified grandams, together with fancy bags and pockets, the beautiful stitches of which cannot be rivalled by the twentieth-century woman.

There may be many inventors in the family, but my time and opportunity of research have been limited, yet I do know one who not only was an inventor, but when a syndicate undertook to infringe upon her patent, she pleaded her own case in court and won. She had retained an able attorney, who on the eve of his departure for Washington was taken seriously ill, and rather than intrust her case, so important and so momentous, to another at that late hour, she went upon the stand and told her own story with such truthfulness and such fervor that she was more than a match for her opponents.

I find the women of our family, like those of their day and generation, were kindly, neighborly and hospitable. What we pay money to have done for us today was usually done among neighbors of an earlier period as "works of love." Sympathy was not so world-wide, but it was deep, strong and true in the small circle or neighborhood. The aged and lonely ones were tenderly and thoughtfully cared for by their neighbors. While the men "changed work," as they called it, in log rolling, wall building, house raising, etc., the



women consoled and helped one another in nursing the ill, caring for and watching with the dying. They were as efficient at funerals as at the marriage feasts; they exchanged dyes and yarns, tastes of dinners; they borrowed and lent coals for fire or leaven for bread. Trouble never entered into any consideration with them. They even cleaned house together, dipped candles and took turns in stirring with the sassafras stick the soft soap in the big kettle, anxiously waiting for the triumphant moment when this marble-colored mass would turn to a jelly of the right consistency. If moon and tide were not consulted, they "played the witch" with these good housewives, who hated this most trying of all household industries.

In some branches of our family I am informed that slaves were owned by them here in New England. Some were able to keep servants, but in all, rich or poor, guests were welcome. In this vicinity the women were very friendly to the Indians, and no tribes living on the Cape joined the warlike tribes in massacring the whites. The shoemakers, tailors and coopers were boarded under the rooftrees while they plied their crafts. I remember an artist who boarded in the families in our neighborhood while he painted their portraits.

Manners were a part of their life. Little girls were taught to courtesy, and the boys to stand, cap in hand, respectfully while the aged or strangers passed; both were to make obeisance to the teacher as they left the schoolroom.

Every farmer raised flax and wool, and every woman could knit, spin and weave. Everything needed for home consumption, food, drink, medicine, fire and light, was close at hand, but it required much of woman's industry and skill to convert the raw material into comfort and cheer for the home. The housekeeper, rich or poor, superintended all branches of her household matters. She dried berries, as well as apples and pumpkins, for the winter's use. Candles were the universal light for centuries. We read this little verse written in the sixteenth century:

"Wife, make thine own candle,  
Spare penny to handle.  
Provide for thy tallow ere frost cometh in,  
And make thine own candle ere winter begin."

Yet we can remember the candle dipping and still see those pretty girls giving "extra dips" to their "courting candles." And never shall we forget the sweet odor of the bayberry candles which we liked to blow out so as to enjoy their perfume.

Of the twenty different kinds of manufacture of flax, women and children attended to one-half. Little girls did much wool spinning and weaving, and they learned to knit as soon as old enough to hold their needles. The clothes, the bedding and linen





were spun and woven by our women. The thoughtful and well-to-do maiden had laid up against her marriage day her pillowcase of knitted stockings, with a goodly supply of linen sheets and woolen blankets, all made and marked by her own hand.

One of our Nye maidens, an early pioneer to Ohio, was to have been married in 1796, but her father's house was burned and all her household linen and wearing apparel, so the marriage had to be postponed one year, for the crop of flax and wool to grow from which to spin and weave another supply. Her wedding gloves, which she had spun, bleached and knit herself, were, however, saved, and she generously, during this delay, lent them to two brides to wear, who were not fortunate enough to have any.

Instead of women's clubs, the religious and social functions, including mothers' parliaments, teachers' conventions, women's federations and other various engagements, together with the intricate management of the modern household, of our women of to-day, many of our foredames busied their brains from early morn until dewy eve with the necessities of life. They took time by the forelock, breakfasting at five o'clock in summer and six o'clock in winter.

I would like to quote from one diarist to show you how many interests she had in mind, and still did not have nervous prostration. She writes she arose very early in the morning and prepared a baking for the big oven before breakfast, and this, mind you, after she had skimmed the milk and attended to her hens and geese. This versatile mother writes that even during the long morning prayer her mind would wander from the grace of God, which much amazed her, to the temporal concerns of life. She wondered, while on her knees, if Polly had remembered to get the cards ready for the morning spinning, if she had put the water on the leach tub, or turned the cloth in the dying vat; if Billy had brought in the oven wood to start the fire in the big oven, so that the heating and baking could be finished before Jack and Jerry had got the clothes pounded out ready for the boiling, and whether some other thing had not been forgotten of the thousand and one that must be done without fail, that there might be no disagreeable hitch in the housework; and after all this, she writes, she went to bed and slept soundly all night.

When today we see the woman of affairs conducting so ably and so skilfully her business enterprises, we remember her grandmother knew how to keep many wheels a-whirring and many "irons in the fire," and did not go beyond her own rooftree to attend to all this variety of business either.

Silent and mute stands the loom in the old garret. There are the wheels of various names and sizes, the warping bars and innumerable devices of home manufacture; but no more will be heard the





thwack of the loom, the whirl of the swift-going spinning wheel, nor the snapping of the clock-reel.

The romantic swain of the long ago who always "kissed Mistress Polly when the clock wheel ticked," has gone, and the sweet song of the spinster is forever hushed, but the ardor and the spirit of both still live.

As these industrial functions of our foremothers, the spinning, the weaving, the candle-making and various other crafts have gone into the hands of the manufacturers, as we are surrounded by all the modern labor-saving inventions and given all the advantages of higher education, are we supplying more of the spiritual, the moral, the intellectual and æsthetic demands of our families? Surely the economy and industry practised by our mothers of former generations together with their religious convictions, their educational ambitions and their patriotic fervor have wrought their influence upon us, and we consider ourselves fortunate in our inheritance, as we are privileged in our environment. Great demands are made upon us in our time; life is complex; old burdens have shifted to new ones.

Today we find the women of our family occupying honorable positions in the educational, professional and industrial world. There are also artists and musicians, missionaries and philanthropists among them. There are hosts of noble, unselfish mothers and honored and helpful wives and daughters, whose superior advantages and splendid opportunities have equipped them to stand for as much and more to their families, to their country and to the world.

The following remarks were made by James W. Nye of Marietta, Ohio:

It is certainly an honor and a pleasure to address you twice, but there have been, I am told, a great many inquiries regarding the paper which I read yesterday, which was prepared by my sister, and I am glad of this opportunity to say a few words in response to these inquiries. Owing to the limited time my sister felt that she could occupy, she thought it necessary to cut her paper a little short, stopping just where it seems as if an interest had been created in the Nye descendants in Marietta. Two brothers went to Marietta, Ichabod and Ebenezer. Ebenezer did not settle in Marietta permanently, but lived on a farm. He died many years before I was born, and I know little about him. We have two representatives of his family, Mr. and Mrs. Gates of Porstmouth, Ohio, with us today. Colonel Ichabod's family consisted of three daughters and five sons. Two children, Horace and Panthea, were born in Chesterfield, Mass., and were brought West in their infancy



with their father and mother, and afterwards Arius, Anselm Tupper, Ichabod Hinckley, Edward White, Sophia, Rowena and Huldah were born in Marietta. I am not going to give you a history of each one, as it would take too much of your time. However, I would like to say that Major Horace Nye, of the War of 1812, spent his active business life at Zanesville, Ohio, where he died in 1859. He was a manufacturer and conducted a tannery. He was a valuable citizen, and in politics, after 1835, an Abolitionist. His oldest son, Horace, was a physician, who died two years since, aged eighty-five years.

The little pioneer girl, Panthea Nye, married Mr. Rotheus Hayward of Easton, Mass.; he settled in Ohio about 1802, and owned a fine Muskingum Valley farm, twenty miles from Marietta, near Waterford. Their great-granddaughters, the Misses Bessie and Stella Leonard of Marietta, are here to-day.

Sophia Nye married Rev. Cyrus Byington of Stockbridge, Mass. He became a missionary to the Choctaw Indians in 1818. He was a Greek and Hebrew scholar, and translated much of the Bible into the Choctaw language, also prepared a grammar in that language, all of this in connection with his labor as a teacher and preacher.

Mr. and Mrs. Byington spent the best part of their lives among the Choctaws. As age advanced they returned to Ohio and resided in Belpre, twelve miles below Marietta, near their only daughter, Mrs. George Dana; both died there some years ago.

Hon. Arius Nye was a leading attorney in Marietta, a member of the Ohio Legislature, both in House and Senate. He was for many years, until failing health compelled him to resign the office, President Judge of the District Court, which embraced six counties in southern Ohio. Of his six sons but one survives. All of them, I believe, except the late Lieut. H. C. Nye of the United States Navy, were members of the legal profession. Judge Nye was also the leader in the establishment and support of the Episcopal Church in Marietta, St. Luke's, organized in 1826. Two of his daughters and two of his granddaughters are present to-day.

Anselm Tupper Nye (my honored father) was engaged in manufacturing and mercantile business in Marietta. He established the first foundry in the town, built in 1828, and it is still owned by his family and in operation to-day, seventy-five years of age. It is under the management of his namesake and grandson, the firm name being The A. T. Nye & Son Company. The Nye Hardware Company business, which I, his only surviving son, now own, was established by him fifty-five years ago. A. T. Nye was all his life active in those matters which concerned the interests of the town, holding many public offices of trust.

He was a charter member of the Board of Trustees of Marietta College in 1833 until his death in 1881, and was for forty-seven





years, and until his death, deacon in the First Congregational Church in Marietta, the pioneer church.

Ichabod Hinckley Nye was also a manufacturer. He was a public-spirited citizen and strongly antislavery. He had two sons in the army during the Civil War. One of these, Col. R. L. Nye, has since made a reputation for himself in the legal profession, and is now in California seeking health.

Edward White Nye, the youngest son, engaged in business. He was the last survivor of his father's family and died in Marietta in 1888, one hundred years after his father settled there. His only son served his country during the Civil War and died some years since.

Rowena Nye married William Pitt Putnam. Mr. Putnam owned and conducted a large farm of one thousand or more acres opposite Blennerhassett's Island in Belpre, Ohio. He was a great-grandson of Major-Gen. Israel Putnam, and as truly patriotic as he.

Huldah Nye died unmarried.

These children of Col. Ichabod Nye have all been gathered to their fathers.

We still have a pretty good representation of Nyes in Marietta, though but three men, of whom I am the oldest. The others are ladies of whom we are justly proud, and there are three little Nye lads there to carry the name along. The sons of the third generation have many of them departed this life, and others have moved west. I have a nephew living in Seattle. In fact, like your Sandwich Nyes, our Marietta Nyes have scattered throughout the country.

Mrs. J. Wolcott Jackson of Newark, N. J., read an original poem written by her in memory of her father, Captain Ezra Nye.

When first upon New England's shore  
Thy blue eyes met their kindred blue,  
Thy childish heart longed to explore  
The bright horizon's distant hue,  
And on thine azure waves to ride,  
Great ocean, mighty in thy pride!

But years must pass, ere from his home  
The stalwart boy went forth to find  
His life work on the briny foam,  
Leaving the land far, far behind,  
Where English sires had sought their rest,  
And love still held a happy nest.



A wise and watchful mother's care,  
A tender father's loving heart,  
A large and merry band, to share  
With him their leader; must he part  
From these, for comrades rough and rude  
And dangers that might death include?

But toils and hardships, dangers, all  
Were but as joys to one who sought  
The ocean with an inborn call  
And viewed the heavens with glory fraught,  
Who, with a sailor's upturned eyes  
Read omens in the starry skies.

The keen ambition to excel,  
An honored name to honor more,  
The thought of those he loved so well  
Within his life fruition bore,  
Led upward, till ere manhood came  
That boy bore a Commander's name.

And ever onward, with the night  
His guiding star, and all the good  
In history, and the surer light  
Of sacred writ, his daily food,  
He called from books and life combined  
The rounded wisdom of his mind.

And fame came to him, and the joy  
Of saving lives upon the deep;  
And later, onward to employ  
His powers, his native land to keep  
From rupture in war's cruel pain,  
By loving service, without gain.

Oh! dear to a fond daughter's heart  
The memories of early days;  
Joyous home-comings, when the smart  
Of partings past was lost in praise,  
And gifts and talk made blissful cheer,  
And fireside bright with father near.

Firm was his rule, but yet in deed  
Thoughtful and tender, faithful love  
O'erflowed with bounty, and decreed  
Wise counsels, that will ever prove  
A guidance, daily life to frame  
And call down blessings on his name.



Mrs. Jerome Holway read the following poem written by  
Mrs. James Palmer Wood, of Waltham, Mass.

In sixteen hundred and thirty-five  
One rare day there did arrive  
From across the pond with its waters blue,  
The good ship Abigail, staunch and true.

From old Kent, England, to Plymouth town  
Came sixty families to settle down  
On the land to them granted by the King,  
In this free country of which we sing.

They were big and little, rich and poor,  
Some had few things, some had more.  
And with these families, we're happy to state  
Came Thomas Tupper and his daughter Kate.

Then in sixteen hundred and thirty-seven  
By the will of Geere and the smile of heaven,  
They pulled up stakes and moved once more  
To the land here left them on the Sandwich shore.

"Tom" felled the trees, and sawed and split,  
And built the house as you now see it.  
He built it fine for a residence,  
And Tupper's have lived there ever since.

How the old man looked we don't care a fig,  
But we'll venture to say he wore a wig,  
And around his neck was a stiff white ruff,  
And out of his snuff-box he sniffed his snuff.

But Kath'rine was tall and Kath'rine was fair;  
No wave or ripple ruffled her hair,  
It was banded tight o'er her low white brow,  
For 'twas wicked to wear it as they do now.

Her eyes were large and her eyes were brown  
And she cast them up and she cast them down,  
And she shot sly glances at nice young men,  
For as maids' hearts are now, so were maids' hearts then.

That she turned the wheel and spun the flax  
We're only supposing, for we don't know facts.  
Now, 'twas lonesome work just a wheel to turn,  
And soon for a "steady" Kate's heart did yearn.

So what wonder she smiled and heaved a sigh  
When her glance first fell on Benjamin Nye?  
Now Benjamin Nye was a sturdy youth  
With a purpose in life and a heart of truth.





But he said to himself, I never shall try  
To live my life without Katherine nigh (NYE),  
So he went straight to her and low in her ear  
He whispered the words we all long to hear.

That she had "a good thing" she quickly saw,  
But she blushed and said "You'll have to ask Paw,"  
That Paw was willing 'tis needless to state,  
Nor were they long in fixing the date.

So the banns were published Sundays three,  
And the sermon preached appropriately.  
Benjamin was twenty and Kate nineteen,  
And as likely a couple as ever was seen—

A model maid and a model man,  
For they'd been brought up on the Puritan plan.  
Then Katherine and Benjamin stood up in a row  
And promised through life hand in hand to go.

And this Puritan maid had never a doubt  
That the word "obey" should be left out;  
Nor was there any "putting away" of man or wife,  
What they did those days, they did for life.

That Kate's dress was of satin, white, blue or pink,  
That she wore to the wedding, I don't think,  
For a Puritan maid could never be gay,  
And all color they wore was a sombre grey.

But round her neck was a kerchief white,  
And Benjamin thought she looked out of sight.  
The honeymoon over, the dream was done,  
Stern duties of life were then begun.

Ben planted the garden, sowed seed like a man,  
And the harvest was—John, Ebenezer and Jonathan.  
And the good work continued, nor did Katherine succumb  
Nor cry "Mercy" 'til Nathan and Caleb had come.

Then she missed the patter of little feet  
'Till Mary and Ben and Cornelius sweet  
Made the old house ring with childish shout,  
That would please our President, without a doubt.

And they grew up fair and they grew up brave  
And the men nobly fought their country to save.  
No grander ancestors would ever be found  
As will plainly be seen if you'll look around



On the faces before us, for on each, one and all,  
This mantle of ancestry straightly doth fall.  
Of one thing we're sure, this we all will decide,  
Our ancestors knew nought of "race suicide";

But in numbers there's strength, and what a world this would be  
If all were descended from stock such as we!  
Our story here ends, for there's no more to relate  
About Benjamin Nye and his good wife Kate.

Hon. David J. Nye of Elyria, Ohio, was called upon, and spoke extemporaneously, in substance as follows :

**MR. PRESIDENT AND KINDRED FRIENDS:**

It gives me pleasure to look into the faces of such an intelligent and interesting audience, the descendants of Benjamin Nye, the first one bearing the name who settled in this country, and who came to Sandwich in 1637.

I have travelled nearly one thousand miles to be present at this first reunion, and feel abundantly paid for the journey. This meeting will be remembered by me as one of the bright events of my life. The acquaintances that I have made and the faces that I have seen will be treasured in my memory with pleasure and fond recollections to the last day of my life.

Those of us who have come from afar, after a wandering of two hundred and forty years by ourselves and our ancestors, to the home of the first settlers are most delighted by the welcome which we have received from those who have remained and lived at the old homestead. We are pleased at the good report which we hear on every hand of the fair fame of those who now live at this beautiful New England town. They have preserved the landmarks and kept and maintained the good character of those who first bore the name.

I have been requested to perform the pleasant duty of extending the thanks of this association to all who have read papers, made addresses and in any way spoken at this meeting. Their papers, speeches and addresses have added life and inspiration to the occasion and reflected credit upon the speakers and this reunion, and I extend the thanks of this association to each one.

But on my own account and in behalf of those who have come from a distance I want to thank the officers and committees of the temporary organization for the able and efficient manner in which they and each of them have performed their duties.

By their efficiency and untiring zeal they have made this first reunion of the Nye family of America a grand success. It is due also to the citizens of Sandwich that the members of this meeting extend to them thanks for their uniform courtesy and kindness





On every hand we have met with that fraternal feeling, good fellowship and hospitality which are ever characteristic of the New Englander.

It gives me great pleasure to meet so many of the descendants of Benjamin Nye. It was not till within the last ten or fifteen years that I began to make somewhat of a study of those bearing the family name, and tracing their genealogy. Those bearing our name have taken part in every enterprise that has tended towards the building up of our country, and that has caused it to take a high rank among the nations of the world.

Among our number there are and have been men of high standing in every walk of life. Honesty and integrity are among the distinguishing characteristics of our family. There have been no more patriotic people than are found in the Nye family. They with others have not only sustained our flag, but they have helped to sow the seeds of our country's greatness before we had a national flag of our own. They were among the pioneers who helped to lay the foundations deep and wide for a great country. They assisted in clearing the land and paving the way for our future greatness.

Our country has been made great and powerful by the heroic devotion to principle of the early citizens who left their homes across the water and came here that they might have that freedom of religion and that liberty which their natures craved and sought.

Right here I am reminded of a story which illustrates our early standing as a nation among nations, and which story you will remember when I tell it.

When Benjamin Franklin was minister to England he attended a banquet in London at which toasts were responded to by the premier of England and the ministers of France, the United States and others.

The toast to England was responded to by the premier. He was eloquent in his praise of his country, and at the close of his speech he took up his glass and said: "Now drink with me again to England, the sun that gives light to the world."

The toast to France came next, and the French minister spoke in glowing terms of his country; imitating the English premier he closed his address by lifting his wineglass, and saying, "Now drink again with me to France, the moon that controls the tides of the world."

Mr. Franklin was then called upon to respond to the toast, "The United States." All eyes were turned upon him. The sun, the moon and the earth had been taken, and what *was* then *left* for the representative of the United States? What could Franklin say? Would he properly represent the then new nation?



He spoke eloquently for the United States as was fitting upon such an occasion, and at the close of his able speech Mr. Franklin raised his wineglass to the level of his eyes and said, "Now drink with me again to the United States, the Joshua that commanded the sun and moon to *stand still* and they *stood still*."

The hardy New Englander had done his full share towards building up the great country then represented by Benjamin Franklin. The Nyes had taken part in this great growth and development.

The women of the Nye family have done their full share in the development of the country, and rearing to maturity the strong men and women who have played such an important part in building up the nation. Upon their laps and from their lips the youth of our country have been taught lessons of liberty, patriotism and devotion to the true principles that go to make a great and good people. Although these women, teachers and mothers, had not the right to vote, they had a greater influence, that of teaching the men who have done and are now doing the voting. They have done their full share, and the country has been made better on account of the part they have taken in it.

Our kinsman have been patriotic and loyal in sustaining the flag of our country, and maintaining the government. In every war for the defence of the country and nation they have borne their full share. Their blood has been spilled upon every battlefield. Among them have been officers who were brave and true. And we have one among us at this reunion who dared to lead wherever there were men who dared to follow. And there were very many privates bearing the name who have ever dared to follow wherever any officer dared to lead.

The record of our ancestors is safe. They sleep in the "windowless palaces of the dead." Whatever strifes may come, they are at rest, and their reputations are secure. But those of us that remain and the future generations have their reputations to make and our characters to maintain. Let us see to it that the present and future members of our kinsman maintain and sustain that good repute which was borne by those who have passed on before us.

Greece with all her learning and art, flourished for two thousand years, then went to decay.

For a thousand years Rome sat on her seven hills and ruled the world, but by her own internal corruption and wrong she declined, and passed away as a power among the nations of the world.

Because our country is a century and a quarter old, let us not think it will live forever, unless we maintain that high standard of citizenship which now makes us so great. Let us as a family do our full share in the future, as our ancestors have in the past, to maintain that high character among our citizens, and hold up the hands and dignity of the nation.





I thank you all for this opportunity of being among you and attending this grand reunion.

Following Hon. David Nye, who proposed a vote of thanks to the resident members of the new organization for their efficient entertainment during the three days' meeting, Mr. William F. Nye of New Bedford also proposed the same to the distant members who had come to us from sixteen states and Canada, and followed his proposition with the following words of greeting:

**KINDRED OF THE NYE FAMILY:**

As a native born of this historic old town I am glad to speak a word of welcome on this first home-coming of the family, and I speak this word with a heart overflowing with brotherly love and ever tender sentiment of family relationship. I fondly wish that I had the eloquence of a Robert Ingersoll to select the choicest words in the English vocabulary in greeting you, but you will not expect that from one who has roamed over sea and land and now treading the border of four score years. So I will simply say, we welcome you home. We are glad to see you. We welcome you with glowing hearts to this home of your forefathers; they who, in the spirit of freedom and fraternity long years ago, settled and named this beautiful town and left it to you, their children, for your home-coming while liberty endures. They brought with them but little of the servile and enervating superstitions of old dynasties. They came here to escape them, and, imbued with the spirit of freedom, they surmounted every obstacle that beset them. They builded greater than they knew. Their skill and courage was unbounded. Their children have spread over this broad continent, and the grand panorama of their enterprise and magnificent progress we to-day turn to look upon, and how can we say other than blessed are they, and their works do follow them? It is a charm for us to go back to their beginning, to the time they levelled here the pine and oak forests, split and hued the logs for their habitations, to contemplate with what strength of body and brain they grasped the wonderful resources of this broad land. We can but think they still live with us as we journey afar, even amid the golden wealth of the Pacific coast, and have helped us to penetrate the rigid arctic seas for their abounding wealth. My dear friends, let us feel that we come back to this dear old town with glad and grateful hearts to sip the nectar of life as from a perennial fountain, and lay our garlands of affection and love upon the altar they erected amid their pleadings and prayers before heaven. Let us ever, my dear friends, emulate their virtues. Let us, each and all, tread life's pathway with the





same indomitable courage and high aims that inspired them; and as the rapidly advancing knowledge of the world at large has opened a broader field for us to act than had they, let us pride the heritage they left us and entwine around their lineage a nobler record for those that follow us to reverence and respect through ages to come.

And now, members of the Nye family, brothers and sisters each, as we leave this charming town to tread again our winding pathways here and afar, we shall, I know, ever feel the "tie that binds," and all the more carry with us "that fellow feeling that makes us wondrous kind," and while remembering the heroism of Benjamin, John and Ebenezer Nye, let us not forget Katherine Tupper, who of herself is "a story without an end, that angels throng to hear."

At one o'clock the meeting adjourned to the old burying ground. The family gathered round the grave of John, the son of Benjamin the first, for a memorial service. Prayer was offered by Rev. Ezra Nye Smith of North Falmouth, Mass.

After decorating the grave with a wreath of oak leaves and cut flowers, by Miss Carol Nye of Auburn, N. Y., and Miss Isabelle Wesson of Boston, Mass., Mr. S. Curtis Smith of Newton, Mass., gave the following address:

#### MEMBERS OF THE NYE FAMILY:

In visiting the scene that interested our ancestors, it becomes us to visit this place which was chosen by so many of them to be the last resting place for all that is mortal.

What an ideal place, so suggestive of repose and peace! As the eye lingers on the scene, with its enchanting panorama of beautiful lake, gracefully undulating fields, and ever-green hills beyond, the vision lends wings celestial, and, by its inspiration, thought catches a glimpse of the eternal realities to which the spirits of our departed took their flight.

For several days our thoughts have centred around the memory of our common ancestor, Benjamin Nye. We have had his noble traits of character clearly portrayed by several speakers. I have been deeply impressed with the unanimity of sentiment as to his energetic labors for church, school and good government.

Benjamin Nye was buried in Rehoboth, where he fell fighting the Indians. Within this sacred enclosure there are fifty-two stones that mark the graves of his descendants, the oldest of whom being John Nye, son of Benjamin, a worthy son of a worthy father. Therefore it is eminently fitting that we should gather around his grave and place on it this wreath as a token of our grateful remem-





THE GRAVE OF JOHN NYE.





rance and continued affection. We honor him and greatly strengthen our characters by recalling his virtues and endeavoring to emulate them in our lives.

He was a man of sterling integrity, a good citizen, a kind neighbor, with a reverent and childlike trust in God, and a tender regard and constant solicitude for all who were dependent on him.

Let us ever cherish the thought that a noble memory enshrined in the hearts of the living is a perpetual influence for good in all succeeding generations.

We have a right to be proud of our great inheritance, but let us firmly resolve that it shall descend to posterity untarnished and undiminished.

This service, which was a beautiful ending to the three days' meetings, was closed by singing the Memorial hymn.

REMEMBRANCE OF OUR FATHERS.

In pleasant lands have fallen the lines  
That bound our goodly heritage;  
And safe beneath our sheltering vines  
Our youth is blest, and soothed our age.

What thanks, O God, to thee are due,  
That thou didst plant our fathers here,  
And watch and guard them as they grew,  
A vineyard to the planter dear!

The toils they bore our ease have wrought;  
They sowed in tears—in joy we reap;  
The birthright they so dearly bought  
We'll guard till we with them shall sleep.

Thy kindness to our fathers, shown  
In weal and woe through all the past,  
Their grateful sons, O God, shall own,  
While here their name and race shall last.

Friday afternoon there was a pilgrimage to Spring Hill to visit the first grant of land given to Benjamin Nye in 1637.

Mr. and Mrs. S. Curtis Smith received the guests at their summer home, which is an original Nye house, and stands on the land once owned by Benjamin. After which they strolled to the hill overlooking the bay, then to the stream where the old fulling mill stood.

One of the places visited with a great deal of interest was the home of Miss Abbie F. Nye.



This house stands on the site of the Benjamin Nye house. Miss Nye extended to all a cordial welcome, and showed many old family relics; among which was the cellar wall supposed to be a part of the original Nye house.

The last evening of this pleasant gathering was spent at the Casino, where the committee had arranged for a closing reception. After an hour's concert by McCann's Orchestra of Sandwich, the Nyes, and the townspeople who were their guests joined in a social dance. The decorations of the Casino and the costumes of the ladies made it a scene long to be remembered. Joining hands in the centre of the hall, the Nye family of America bade each other a formal adieu to the tune "Should Old Acquaintance be Forgotten."

It is now Saturday night, and our pleasant and genial guests have taken their departure to their homes, and as I look from the hilltops in old Sandwich, I seem to see in my imagination the old mill stream, beside it stand Benjamin and Katherine arm in arm, and I seem to hear Benjamin as he gazes down the stream which wends its way through the green meadow to the ocean say to Katherine: "May He who 'holds the winds and the waves in the hollow of his hands' keep safely my children, that they may gather again at our hearthstone in

1904."





SITE OF BENJAMIN NYE'S FULLING MILL.





## NAMES OF THOSE PRESENT AT REUNION.

---

<p>Charles H. Nye, Hyannis, Mass.            Gen. and Mrs. George H. Nye,              Boston, Mass.            William F. Nye, New Bedford, Mass.            David J. Nye, Elyria, Ohio.            Charles F. Nye, New York City.            John E. Nye, Northfield, Mass.            G. Edward Nye, Peterboro, N. H.            Edwin B. Nye, Washington, D. C.            F. H. A. Nye, West Salem, Wis.            Fred H. Nye, West Salem, Wis.            Jane E. Nye Smith, North Amherst, Mass.            Mrs. G. Edward Nye, Peterboro, N. H.            Mrs. Hannah Nye Page, Essex, Vt.            Mrs. Polly Nye, Westford, Vt.            Mrs. Edward J. Cox, Newtonville, Mass.            Mrs. Emma R. Nye, Brooklyn, N. Y.            Mrs. David F. Moore, Brooklyn, N. Y.            Mary F. Nye, Brooklyn, N. Y.            Louise Nye Churchill, New York City.            Frank H. Baton, Stonington, Conn.            Levi R. Nye, North Stockholm, N. Y.            Mrs. Levi R. Nye, North Stockholm, N. Y.            Hazel A. Nye, North Stockholm, N. Y.            Henry R. Nye, North Stockholm, N. Y.            David D. Nye, Bourne, Mass.            Fanny Clark, Somerville, Mass.            James H. Nickerson, Newton, Mass.            Mrs. James H. Nickerson, Newton, Mass.            Levi Henry Elwell, Amherst, Mass.            Abbie Miner Elwell, Amherst, Mass.            Marion Freeman Elwell, Amherst, Mass.            Florence Rose Elwell, Amherst, Mass.            James Henry Elwell, Amherst, Mass.            William L. Nye, Lee, Mass.            Hattie Hurd Nye, Lee, Mass.            J. Edwin Nye, Auburn, Me.</p>	<p>George H. Nye, Auburn, N. Y.            Mrs. George H. Nye, Auburn, N. Y.            Frances McC. Nye, Auburn, N. Y.            Carol B. Nye, Auburn, N. Y.            George H. Nye, Jr., Auburn, N. Y.            William A. Nye, Bourne, Mass.            Mary E. Nye, Bourne, Mass.            Ephraim B. Nye, Bourne, Mass.            William H. Nye, Bourne, Mass.            Frances A. Nye, Mystic, Conn.            Quaeseta Nye Drake, Haddonfield, N. J.            Mrs. Lemuel Clift, Mystic, Conn.            Miss Margaret Nye, Cincinnati, Ohio.            Miss Martha Allen, Cincinnati, Ohio.            Mrs. Morgiana H. Parker, Boston, Mass.            Mrs. Helen A. Nye, No. Falmouth, Mass.            Dorothy Nye, Sagamore, Mass.            Ida Crowell Nye, Sagamore, Mass.            Elizabeth L. Nye, Sagamore, Mass.            Nettie L. Ingraham, Sandwich, Mass.            H. L. Ingraham, Sandwich, Mass.            Mrs. D. D. Nye, Cataumet, Mass.            Mrs. Abby R. Bicknell, Sandwich, Mass.            Frederick E. Pierce, Jr., Waterbury, Conn.            Walter E. R. Nye, Sagamore, Mass.            Ellen Nye Crowell, Sagamore, Mass.            Miss Susan B. Nye, Providence, R. I.            Mrs. Elizabeth D. Nye, Providence, R. I.            Joseph B. Nye, Whitman, Mass.            C. E. Stebbins, Chicopee, Mass.            Mrs. Elizabeth Nye Stebbins,              Chicopee, Mass.            Ebenezer B. Nye, Sagamore, Mass.            Abbie Jane Nye, Sagamore, Mass.            Mary Briggs Nye, Sagamore, Mass.            Sarah C. Nye, Sagamore, Mass.            Helen B. Nye, Sagamore, Mass.</p>
---	--



- Joshua G. Nye, Sagamore, Mass.  
 Abbie J. Nye, Sagamore, Mass.  
 Phebe Nye Ryder, Medford, Mass.  
 Mary Hoxie Ryder, Beverly, Mass.  
 Eunice Alden Blake, Abington, Mass.  
 Mrs. John E. Nye, Northfield, Mass.  
 Franklin Crocker, Barnstable, Mass.  
 Alfred Crocker, Barnstable, Mass.  
 Alfred Crocker, Jr., St. Johnsbury, Vt.  
 Eloise H. Crocker, Hyannis, Mass.  
 Isaac Frank Stevens, Nashua, N. H.  
 Mary Stevens Cotton, Nashua, N. H.  
 Joanna W. Little, Boston, Mass.  
 Sarah J. O. Donnell, Dorchester, Mass.  
 Catherine Nye Bartlett,  
     New Bedford, Mass.  
 Grace Clark Nye Weed,  
     New Bedford, Mass.  
 Alice Bartlett Nye Davis,  
     Rochester, N. Y.  
 Alvira E. Nye Gates, Portsmouth, Ohio.  
 John H. Nye, Shirland, Ill.  
 Grace Weed Nye, Milwaukee, Wis.  
 Mattie Nye Townsend, Houlton, Me.  
 Mrs. Nancy Nye DeNormandie,  
     Danvers, Mass.  
 Sarah Y. DeNormandie, Danvers, Mass.  
 Miss Minerva Tupper Nye, Marietta, O.  
 Miss Ellen R. Nye, Champlain, N. Y.  
 Mrs. Isaac W. Dyer, Portland, Me.  
 Mrs. Charles W. M. Lellan,  
     New York, N. Y.  
 Mrs. Hattie Nye Hathaway,  
     Walpole, Mass.  
 Mrs. Sarah H. Davenport, Dedham, Mass.  
 S. Buel Nye, Nortoton Heights, Conn.  
 Daniel H. Huxford, Randolph, Mass.  
 Thomas S. Nye, Attleboro, Mass.  
 Miss F. L. Nye, Attleboro, Mass.  
 Alfred H. Wing, Newton, Mass.  
 James W. Nye, Marietta, Ohio.  
 Harriet Nye Towne, Marietta, Ohio.  
 Eudora Nye, Chillicothe, Ohio.  
 James H. Nye, Brockton, Mass.  
 Josiah C. Nye, Brockton, Mass.  
 Florence G. Nye, Brockton, Mass.  
 Annie Nye Smith, Boston, Mass.  
 Mrs. Esther Nye Fletcher, Littleton, Mass.  
 Augustus Sears Nye, Dorchester, Mass.  
 Mrs. Wm. L. Nye, Sandwich, Mass.  
 Mary E. Nye, Sandwich, Mass.  
 Rowena S. Nye Brush, Chicago, Ill.  
 S. Curtis Smith, Newton, Mass.  
 Clara Nye Smith, Newton, Mass.  
 Franklin E. Smith, Newton, Mass.  
 Annie M. Nye Smith, Newton, Mass.  
 Nathan C. Nye, Franklin, Mass.  
 Alice Crocker, Barnstable, Mass.  
 Annie E. Nye Luce, Marion, Mass.  
 Elizabeth G. Nye, Marion, Mass.  
 Susanna Blackinship, Marion, Mass.  
 Louise Holmes Handy, Fall River, Mass.  
 Harriet Parker Harlow, Wareham, Mass.  
 Hattie E. Smith, Wareham, Mass.  
 Kezie T. Howland, Newton, Mass.  
 Lucy E. Bowdoin, New Braintree, Mass.  
 Mrs. Alfred Nye, Fairhaven, Mass.  
 Mrs. Horace K. Nye, Fairhaven, Mass.  
 Alfred F. Nye, Fairhaven, Mass.  
 Ella H. Nye, Fairhaven, Mass.  
 Mrs. Isedora F. Cartter, Wisconsin.  
 Mrs. Elizabeth W. Nye,  
     No. Falmouth, Mass.  
 C. W. Swift, Aberdeen, S. D.  
 Mary C. Allen, Monument Beach, Mass.  
 Mary E. Burgess, Monument Beach, Mass.  
 R. C. Bodfish, Falmouth, Mass.  
 Juliet C. Everett, Wareham, Mass.  
 Everett I. Nye, Wellfleet, Mass.  
 Catherine Nye Thompson,  
     Middletown, Conn.  
 Robert W. Thompson, Middletown, Conn.  
 Mrs. Ezra G. Perry,  
     Monument Beach, Mass.  
 Ezra Nye Smith, No. Falmouth, Mass.  
 Arthur N. Nye, No. Falmouth, Mass.  
 Mrs. Helen F. Nye, No. Falmouth, Mass.  
 Florence M. Nye, No. Falmouth, Mass.  
 Mrs. Martin T. Soule, Middleboro, Mass.  
 Anna C. Swift, Cataumet, Mass.  
 Horace B. Bourne, Taunton, Mass.  
 Mrs. Horace B. Bourne, Taunton, Mass.





- Ebenezer P. Bourne, Sandwich, Mass.  
 Henry W. Nye, Boston, Mass.  
 Berthald H. Nye, Boston, Mass.  
 John P. Ranger, No. Brookfield, Mass.  
 Mrs. Rhoda L. Doane, Wollaston, Mass.  
 Mrs. Isabel T. Linnell, No. Chatham, Mass.  
 Fred C. Nye, Attleboro, Mass.  
 Bessie M. Leonard, Marietta, Ohio.  
 Stella R. Leonard, Marietta, Ohio.  
 Fremont Nye, Westerly, R. I.  
 Ella Amelia Nye, Westerly, R. I.  
 Elmira B. Nye Scott, Ottawa, Ont.  
 Lola M. Scott, Ottawa, Ont.  
 James A. Clark, Somerville, Mass.  
 Letitia F. Clark, Somerville, Mass.  
 Ezra G. Perry, Bourne, Mass.  
 Agnes Nye King, Cambridge, Mass.  
 Obed C. Nye, New Bedford, Mass.  
 Elizabeth E. Nye, Wareham, Mass.  
 Mrs. William E. Nye, Wareham, Mass.  
 Carlton S. Nye, Wareham, Mass.  
 Mrs. F. Wolcott Jackson, Newark, N. J.  
 Wm. F. Jackson, Newark, N. J.  
 Abbie F. Nye, Sandwich, Mass.  
 M. Carrie Nye, Sandwich, Mass.  
 Annie E. Nye, Sandwich, Mass.  
 J. Thacher Sears, Melrose, Mass.  
 Annie L. Sears, Melrose, Mass.  
 Capt. Hiram Nye, Marion, Mass.  
 Georgianna H. Nye, Marion, Mass.  
 Mrs. Timothy Crocker,  
     South Hyannis, Mass.  
 Mrs. Charles H. Carney,  
     South Hyannis, Mass.  
 Mrs. James D. Lloyd, Providence, R. I.  
 Julia Emmery Nye, Bridgewater, Mass.  
 Ethel Gertrude Nye, Bridgewater, Mass.  
 Mrs. Julia E. Nye, Bridgewater, Mass.  
 B. F. Nye, Centreville, Mass.  
 Holmes Nye, Walpole, Mass.  
 Sarah J. Nye, Walpole, Mass.  
 Ida Holmes Nye, Walpole, Mass.  
 Victor J. Nye, Utica, N. Y.  
 Mrs. Bartlett Nye, Champlain, N. Y.  
 Mrs. Marcus M. Nye, Barnstable, Mass.  
 Rose Lincoln Nye, Barnstable, Mass.  
 Elizabeth Crocker Nye, Barnstable, Mass.  
 Mrs. J. H. Abbott, East Whitman, Mass.  
 Mrs. E. P. Dill, Gardiner, Me.  
 Mabel Dill, Gardiner, Me.  
 Joseph K. Nye, Fairhaven, Mass.  
 Mrs. Elizabeth B. Nye, Bourne, Mass.  
 Loyal S. Nye, Binghamton, N. Y.  
 Edna Nye Martin, Binghamton, N. Y.  
 Mary Lillian Nye, Wellesley, Mass.  
 Mrs. Charles H. Nye, Wellesley, Mass.  
 Wm. S. Ford, Melrose, Mass.  
 B. F. Nye, Highgate, Vt.  
 Frank C. Pierce, Waterbury, Conn.  
 Ida F. Hamblin, Sandwich, Mass.  
 Mrs. Louis Nickerson, Fairhaven, Mass.  
 Edith Crowell, East Dennis, Mass.  
 John W. Nye, Manchester, N. H.  
 William L. Nye, Sandwich, Mass.  
 Francis A. Nye, No. Falmouth, Mass.  
 Mary A. Nye, No. Falmouth, Mass.  
 Laura Nye Eldred, No. Falmouth, Mass.  
 Samuel H. Nye, Sandwich, Mass.  
 Ralph Leslie Nye, Boston, Mass.  
 Alberta Eaton Nye, Boston, Mass.  
 Willis Atkins Nye, New York City.  
 Mrs. Myra A. Nye, New York City.  
 John M. Freeman, Jr., Wareham, Mass.  
 Annie Nye Freeman, Wareham, Mass.  
 Ernest Nye Freeman, Wareham, Mass.  
 Mabel S. Freeman, Wareham, Mass.  
 Dorothy Freeman, Wareham, Mass.  
 Ralph I. Freeman, Wareham, Mass.  
 Wallace M. Freeman, Wareham, Mass.  
 Baby Freeman, Wareham, Mass.  
 Georgetta B. Nye, Wellfleet, Mass.  
 Georgetta Nye, Dennis, Mass.  
 Elizabeth Nye Crowell,  
     New Bedford, Mass.  
 Carolyn Eldred, No. Falmouth, Mass.  
 Mary Nye Fisher, Walpole, Mass.  
 Eliza Nye Milzard, Atlantic, Mass.  
 Dulcina Barlow Perry.  
 Walter B. Ingraham, Providence, R. I.  
 Earle Nye Ingraham, Providence, R. I.  
 Mrs. Walter B. Ingraham,  
     Providence, R. I.



- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| A. Etta Nye, Clinton, Mass.          | Nathan Nye, Sagamore, Mass.            |
| Wm. A. Nye, Clinton, Mass.           | Alfred J. Nye, Sagamore, Mass.         |
| Sarah C. Nye Wesson, Sandwich, Mass. | Mrs. Stephen B. Nye, Sandwich, Mass.   |
| James L. Wesson, Boston, Mass.       | Joshua Crowell, E. Dennis, Mass.       |
| Isabel Wesson, Boston, Mass.         | Mrs. Joshua Crowell, E. Dennis, Mass.  |
| Nathaniel F. Nye, Auburndale, Mass.  | Mrs. Nathan Nye, Sagamore, Mass.       |
| Levi S. Nye, Sandwich, Mass.         | Mrs. Mercy Jenkins, Roxbury, Mass.     |
| Mrs. Levi S. Nye, Sandwich, Mass.    | Albert G. Nye, Fruitville, Cal.        |
| Sarah D. Nye, Sandwich, Mass.        | Mercy Dimmick Nye Brown,               |
| Lizzie A. Nye, Sandwich, Mass.       | Mountain View, Cal.                    |
| Lina K. Eaton, Boston, Mass.         | Thirza A. Briggs, Bourne, Mass.        |
| Mrs. Henry B. Cram, Cambridge, Mass. | Sarah M. N. Haines, Sandwich, Mass.    |
| Henry B. Cram, Cambridge, Mass.      | Jerome R. Holway, Sandwich, Mass.      |
| C. I. Holmes, Fall River, Mass.      | Mrs. Jerome R. Holway, Sandwich, Mass. |
| Michael Burnham, St. Louis, Mo.      | Alvah S. Holway, Sandwich, Mass.       |
| George W. Nye, Providence, R. I.     | William R. Holway, Sandwich, Mass.     |
| Andrew W. Nye, Brockton, Mass.       | Amy R. Holway, Sandwich, Mass.         |
| Mrs. W. E. R. Nye, Sagamore, Mass.   | Alice Campbell Nye, Dorchester, Mass.  |
| Eben W. Nye, Sagamore, Mass.         | Henry Alden Belcher, Randolph, Mass.   |
| Roswell H. Nye, Sagamore, Mass.      | Hannah B. Nye Belcher, Randolph, Mass. |



# THE NYE FAMILY OF AMERICA

Second Reunion  
Sandwich, Mass.  
1904





THE  
Nye Family of America  
Association

*PROCEEDINGS AT THE SECOND REUNION  
AT SANDWICH, MASSACHUSETTS  
AUGUST SEVENTEENTH, EIGHTEENTH AND  
NINETEENTH*

*1904*

---

PRINTED BY E. ANTHONY & SONS, INC.  
NEW BEDFORD, MASS.



MRS. S. CURTIS SMITH  
MRS. HENRY ALDEN BELCHER  
*Committee on Publication*





# OFFICERS

## OF THE

### NYE FAMILY OF AMERICA

### ASSOCIATION

---

#### *President*

MR. WILLIAM L. NYE, Sandwich, Mass.

#### *Secretary*

MRS. HENRY ALDEN BELCHER, Randolph, Mass.

#### *Treasurer*

MRS. ANNIE NYE SMITH, Roxbury, Mass.

#### *Executive Committee*

CHARLES H. NYE	. . . . .	Hyannis, Mass.
WILLIAM F. NYE	. . . . .	Fairhaven, Mass.
EVERETT I. NYE	. . . . .	Wellfleet, Mass.
LEVI S. NYE	. . . . .	Sandwich, Mass.
HON. WILLIAM A. NYE	. . . . .	Bournedale, Mass.
DAVID D. NYE	. . . . .	Cataumet, Mass.
JAMES L. WESSON	. . . . .	Boston, Mass.
WILLIAM P. NYE	. . . . .	Providence, R. I.
MRS. WILLIAM L. NYE	. . . . .	Sandwich, Mass.
MISS MARY E. NYE	. . . . .	Sandwich, Mass.
MRS. S. CURTIS SMITH	. . . . .	Newton, Mass.
MISS GRACE NYE	. . . . .	Milwaukee, Wis.
DR. FREMONT NYE	. . . . .	Westerly, R. I.
JAMES W. NYE	. . . . .	Marietta, Ohio
HON. STEPHEN A. NYE	. . . . .	Fairfield, Maine
WILLIAM F. JACKSON	. . . . .	Newark, N. J.



## PROCEEDINGS

---

THE second reunion of the Nye Family of America was held in Sandwich, Massachusetts, August seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth.

The meetings were held in the First Parish Church, where all of the first settlers of the town worshipped.

The meetings were not as largely attended as last year, but all present seemed deeply interested in the research of the family history. About two hundred and twenty-five persons registered, representing many of the States of our Union.

The first meeting, August seventeenth, was called to order at three o'clock P. M. by the President of the Association, William L. Nye of Sandwich.

A hymn was sung, followed by the address of welcome by the President, as follows:

### FRIENDS AND KINSMEN:

Again it becomes my privilege to greet the representatives of the Nye family of America, and welcome you again to this old and beautiful home of your ancestors.

Two hundred and nineteen years have passed since a lad of fifteen left his home in England and came to Saugus. Two years after he came to Sandwich and concluded to accept this as his abiding place. Why he should leave his home at so early an age we know not. It may be that the home life in the old country was unpleasant, or he may have been possessed with a disposition to roam abroad.

By some it is contended that when the good ship "Abigail" sailed away on her long voyage across the trackless deep, among



the passengers was a maiden fair, and that she was the magnet that drew the lad from home and friends and all he held dear. That lad was Benjamin Nye 1st. The maid was Katherine Tupper.

It is supposed he resided in the family of Thomas Tupper, a missionary among the Indians. At the age of twenty years he married the maiden Katherine and moved to the east part of the town.

Two hundred and sixty-nine years have passed away and how much history has been crowded into the intervening years. What mighty strides have been made in civilization, arts and inventions. Our fathers were confined to their narrow limits. Today the world is ours, we feel the beating of its pulse and listen to the music of its voices.

How much wiser the world has grown, especially in ancient history. How much has been learned of our own history and ancestry.

Two hundred and sixty-nine years seem a long period of time; but as we travel back through the years and trace our lineage to days of Benjamin 1st, we seem drawn nearer together and the days and years seem to shorten.

Today what seemed clouded in mystery in regard to our ancestry, by the ceaseless toil of the builders of the family tree, has become in many cases as clear as the noonday.

Perhaps the time may come when the student may be able to wander back to the days when Adam the 1st lost his lease of the Garden of Eden, and he and Eve stepped outside its flowery gates to take up the profession of farming, and even that great problem that has puzzled many a student, may be solved—namely: Who Cain's wife was. It is certainly a pleasure to be able to know who our grandparents were back through each generation to the days of the Pilgrims. Yet, sometimes we find ourselves sadly mistaken when we accept all that is given us by those who claim to be informed on certain historical facts.

A year ago a friend gave me a list of the names of the children of Jonathan the 1st. Recently I have received another list of the same family. The trouble is the two lists differ. I find by the last list there were two sets of twins in the family, so have accepted that one as correct. I will say no more on this line as the walking





encyclopedia of the Nye family will give such interesting facts, that will not only please, but surprise you.

Allow me to remark here that the name of Jonathan Nye, the third son of Benjamin 1st, will be brought to your attention many times during your tarry here, and I can assure those who claim him as their ancestor, when they know all the facts in regard to him will be proud of Father Jonathan.

As we allow our thoughts to wander back to the days of the early settlers, we are inclined to place them all in one class. The little company in the Mayflower, who left Holland, that they might find a refuge where they could worship God in their own way and according to the dictates of their own conscience, were strictly Puritans. It has been said all Pilgrims were Puritans. But all Puritans were not Pilgrims. Our ancestor was a true Pilgrim, and the company that came with him were Pilgrims, or Pilgrim Puritans, if you are partial to the word Puritan. You ask why they came to this wilderness, or the new country just being developed? I can only answer they came for what there was in it. It was not from any begotten religious ideas. Jonathan the beloved, did not see fit to make his calling and election sure until he was 87 years old, when he partook of the sacrament and was received into the Sandwich church. His faith in the hymn, "While the lamp holds out to burn," etc., must have been strong. Yet he was a specimen of the men of his time among the Pilgrims. One writer has said, "I fancy they came here to worship God—and make money," and "How our fathers managed to clear their farms, build houses, and worship God on the Sabbath day, all in one life time, is a mystery," and then adds, "They had pluck and stuck." That is the secret of their success. The settlers of Sandwich of which the Nyes were a part, were in the main, liberal and broad-minded men. Men of fearless character. When the order came from Plymouth, for the authorities to whip the Quakers, they refused to carry out that order, and they were obliged to be taken to the outskirts of the town to have the punishment administered. In fact, it may be truly said, that the first seed for religious liberty was planted in old Sandwich.

I have said our ancestors were Pilgrims, and the fact, that they



were ever seeking new lands and establishing new homes, proves my statement.

In 1788 when Ichabod Nye, with his wife and infant daughter, braved the dangers of the western wilds, and sailed down the Ohio to Marietta, he was a Pilgrim in the same sense as those who landed in dreary winter on the wild New England coast. You will find them in every land and on every sea. This week, while perusing the county paper, I came across this item: "In Tien-Tsin, China, July 20, a daughter to Dr. and Mrs. Daniel Butler Nye, and grand-daughter to Mrs. Nathan Nye of Sagamore." Who can foresee the result of this event? Perhaps yet there may be a Nye colony in China, and perhaps some day the Nye family of America may hold their reunion there.

Yes, our ancestors were Pilgrims. Their children are the same and in days to come you will still find a Pilgrim Nye.

But in their wanderings they have left landmarks all along the way, landmarks that have been for the good of all.

"Here where the Pilgrim dwelt,  
Here where to God they knelt,  
By this broad way;  
Here where these noble deeds  
These largest hopes exceeds,  
And fills our highest needs,  
We come this day.

"Our Fathers loved the truth,  
And in our country's youth  
Maintained the right.  
Now let their sons arouse,  
Redeem their fathers' vows,  
Each righteous cause espouse  
In love and might."

What a week for memorial services and family gatherings and reunions. In the City of Boston a vast throng of the boys in blue are gathered together. What a gathering, and yet but a small remnant of those who took part in the terrible struggle of the Civil War. They will live over again the scenes of the past in song and story and by the camp fires. Each year their ranks are





growing thinner and ere long they will be remembered as our fathers are,—men of the past.

But their memory will last as long as our government shall survive, and each year a grateful nation will strew their last resting places with flowers.

In the Memorial Church in Plymouth, tomorrow, the 18th, will be held the family reunion of the Alden family. We send them greetings, and trust their gathering may be pleasant and happy.

Modest John Alden, he who as messenger for the doughty Captain Miles Standish, heard Priscilla say, "Why don't you speak for yourself, John?"

Now he was not a descendent of the Nye family. They are not in the habit of trying to get something for some one else, that they want themselves. No, if John Alden had been a Nye, Captain Standish would never have sent him to do his pleading.

This week you have made your pilgrimage to this old time honored town to celebrate the second reunion of the Nye family of America. We meet again today in this old First Parish Church, made sacred by the memories of the past. It was here our fathers worshipped and offered their humble petitions to the Father of all good. Sacred—for here were taught those lessons of faith and belief that strengthened the pioneers, to meet with, and faithfully discharge, all duties of life. Sacred—for here has been taught the holy truth of the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. We meet today within its sacred walls as one family, here under the roof of the Church home of our fathers.

The year that has passed away since last we met, has been crowded with many events; to some, joy; to others, sorrow; to some, success; to others, disappointments.

I see before me many I was pleased to greet last year, and I can truly say that the pleasure of meeting them again is more than I can express, and to you I give a most cordial welcome.

To you who for the first time make your first visit to this grand and beautiful old home of the fathers, I give to you a hearty greeting and bespeak for you a pleasant and instructive season, as you visit the many places that are so interesting to every member of the Nye family. I would remember one we all love and respect, who through ill health is unable to be with us today. I know how sadly



disappointed he must feel, for he loves the whole Nye family and these reunions.

He is with us in spirit and good wishes. Let us thank God that he was with us at our first meeting, and that he lived to have the desire of his heart realized. To Charles H. Nye, the worthy patriarch of the Nye family, we send our greetings.

Friends, there are those who last year we met with a kindly smile and warm grasp of the hand, whom I miss from this gathering. They will meet with us no more. They have passed on to join the vast majority. Home at last with those they knew and loved here. Home at last. Free from the sorrows and trials of this mortal life. Let us cherish their memories and with bowed heads say: "Thy will be done."

Members of the Nye family of America, you have assembled today to do honor to the memory of those worthy souls, who in the past, laid the foundation stones of good government, and religious thoughts. Should you stand up upon the shore and watch the waves as they roll at your feet, you will say, this is the ocean way the fathers traveled.

You will stand upon the hillside and view the landscape over, and know the steps you have taken were trod by them. In the valley you will say, 'twas here they tilled the soil and builded their homes.

As you stand by the stream where father Benjamin's fulling mill stood, you will almost hear the splashing of the waters over the old wheel.

As you walk through the old cemetery, you again will say here sleep the fathers, blessed be their memory. I have only one word more to say to you, and that is, a word that comes from the heart—welcome.

The president then introduced Mr. William F. Nye, of Fairhaven, Mass., chairman of the executive committee, who spoke as follows:

#### KINDRED AND FRIENDS:

As an heir to the civil liberty that our forefathers so well established on this centre of the universe, as I verily thought the town of





Sandwich to be when a small boy, I am assigned the pleasant duty to extend to you our greeting to this second reunion of the Nye family of America, and to thank you for coming again to do honor to your ancestors. We would give you the honored chair by the fireside of every ancient home of the Nyes to be found—and there are quite a number still left in this and other towns about here that it would be worth your while to visit. We wish to assure you that your welcome is warm and generous, not alone from us who are *Nye* to you, but from the people of this charming old town. All are glad to see you and join with us to make your visit pleasant and enjoyable. It is said that a righteous judgment is to judge others by ourselves. That being so I may be allowed to suit it to this occasion, and say to you that I feel happy in meeting you again, and will not question your gladness, for I know you each in coming to Cape Cod can verify the Cape Codder's superlative expression of gladness "as happy as a clam." I feel, my dear friends, that I need not attempt to define the sentiment that brings us together from near and afar to where the past and the present unite. Welcome—thrice welcome, we say to one and all. Even as I came from the train this morning with others, that stretch of magnificent elms waved their welcome, and we turned with delight to gaze through that archway that only the grand architect of nature can construct. Let me tell you that in coming here today I feel not a little return of my boyhood glee at "*getting back home*," for vividly do I remember of leaving my Pocasset home (twelve miles from here on the road to Falmouth) sixty-four years ago when at the age of sixteen, and the glad returns I made to it as often as I could. Mother was there then—kind neighbors and gracious friends greeted me. They were golden hours, and I know that each of you have experienced them time and again. No matter at what age we have arrived, returning to spend a brief vacation at the old homestead we live over again our youthful days, and the longer we live the more we prize our early home and its associations. This coming home renews our age, and I believe my friends that these reunions, not alone of the Nye family, but the family of Wings, the Hathaways, the Swifts, and the Nickersons, as well are highly appreciated, not alone by our home town, but by the people of Cape Cod and the country about, and I much want to tell you (you who may not have





found it out) the people of Cape Cod are a mighty good and hospitable people. Now don't think that I am blowing their fish horn just because I happen to be a Cape Codder, for having traveled over the world far and wide I am sure I've never found a people of more frank and open generosity. Their perils as fishermen expand their natures and human sympathies, as the many daring rescues of shipwrecked sailors so forcibly illustrate. All the way down to the end of this right arm of Massachusetts where Provincetown nestles amid the sand dunes and about the base of high pole hill, upon the top of which it is said the compact of the Pilgrim Fathers was first read, we find the same. The people feel "Nye" to this old town of Sandwich, and join with us to give you welcome. You have been reading no doubt during the past year much of Benjamin Nye who came to this interesting spot so abounding in primeval forests and fruits, abundant fishing and wild game in the possession of which he no doubt took an abundant share and soon cleared the forests and builded his home, and also the first mill on this little stream, the ripple of which blended with the murmur of this wide stretching woodland, and the hum of yonder ocean waves, through which the Pilgrims' shallops sailed from Provincetown to Plymouth, greet us today, as they no doubt beguiled the twilight hours of Benjamin and Catherine.

Now my friends, we of the Nye family are especially seeking out our ancestry to learn how they ran the gauntlet of "man's inhumanity to man" in the old world and how they came with sufficient stamina of body and brain to project themselves into the new world. The present is with us and we listen to its siren voice. Of the future, hope coyously leads us and viciously refrains from telling us of the pitfalls in our pathway. But of the past, we are surely a part, and curious are we to know all about it, how and from whence we came. But the time allotted me here will not admit of taking up the early record of the Nye family, so I will refer you to our 1903 record containing the very complete historical address by our efficient vice-president, George H. Nye, of Auburn, New York, and the paper from Miss Mary C. Nye of Marietta, Ohio. Advanced minds are now seeking much through the psychic forces, and they are getting many facts that are of deep interest, and through them we shall know more. They lead to the study of



ancestry which so fascinates the human mind; back to mothers, fathers, sisters, brothers, the cherished group where centers all of young humanities' love and affections, as unerringly as the magnetic needle guides the mariner over ocean's broad waste. Then follows the golden link of wife and husband that binds the expanding circle of the human family and welds us together by the immutable law of dependence and devotion, which leads us to take by the hand the Great Giver of Good, by which we are lifted up to realms of knowledge, peace and happiness, and impels us along the pathway of life, ever reaching out for all that is above and beyond us. Allow me, please, to throw one thought backward to the past and absent ones. These worthy pioneers upon this New England shore have since become pioneers on the farther shore across life's river, upon which the hoary boatman awaits to ferry us over to meet them all. Such is the beautiful knowledge vouchsafed to this later day and generation.

Yes, my dear friends, we surely draw unto ourselves by living thoughts, whatever our environments may be, the good or the bad, nothing is ever blotted out, and can you doubt that these sturdy sons and daughters that came across the deep sea to build so much beyond the simple faith that led them, are still with us? Yes, they come, they are with us still, and as we greet and honor them here, they will greet and welcome us to their homes on the brighter shore, and as I have surely met *some* of my dear ones gone before, I expect to meet them all.

Referring again to the old, old homes still existing (their builders and occupants) I cannot do better than read you a letter just received from Charles H. Nye, the author of, and now the dean of this organization of the Nye family. He is ill at his home in Hyannis, but is at present with us in spirit. He is eighty-five years of age. I spent a day with him recently and he wishes me to present his ever living regards to all the Nye family.

He writes me as follows:

"While we are considering the ancestry of the Sandwich race of Nyes that lived years ago, I hope that branch that went from Sandwich and settled in Falmouth will not be overlooked nor forgotten. Among them are many men of note. I will mention one who was very prominent, who lived in the year Eighteen Hundred





(1800), David Nye of North Falmouth, who was in his early life a very prominent man, both in his town and state. He was a Justice of the Peace many years, and represented the town of Falmouth fourteen years in the State Legislature in succession. Besides filling other town offices, was a colonel in the Mass. State V. M., many years; was superseded by Maj. Joshua Nye, and after him by Maj. Francis Nye. And from the Falmouth branch of Nyes descended many worthy of note. The ancestors of our Hon. Vice-President (George H. Nye) of our association, originated in Falmouth, among the Quisset hills, but afterwards strayed away to Auburn, New York."

Of my own immediate branch I may be allowed to briefly state that Ebenezer and John (sons of Benjamin) took up a tract of 1,000 acres of land at North Falmouth in 1667. It was conveyed by deed from the Colonial Government, countersigned by Governor Bradford in 1665.

Ebenezer, from whom my family came, located in what is known to this day as the Wicker Kee Field at North Falmouth, and now the summer resort called Magansett. Ebenezer had sons Elnathan, Meltiah, and Benjamin. Elnathan had three sons. The oldest (Solomon) was the father of my grandfather, Thomas Nye, born in 1761 and died in 1835. His son (Ebenezer) was my father, born in 1799 and died in 1891, aged ninety-two years. And what is worthy of note in connecting the present with the past is my sister Angeline, now living in this town, (eighty-six years of age), well remembers this great grandfather (Solomon) as a tall, straight and gentlemanly man nearly ninety years of age, wearing his polished knee buckles and silk stockings, and often coming to Pocasset from Falmouth town (ten miles) on foot, to visit his son Thomas, who had come home from the War of 1812 somewhat decrepit from sufferings in escaping from an English prison. Our immediate family, I might say, and the Nye family generally, are not void of the spirit of venture and daring. My father, when at the age of nineteen, was placed in command of a ship from which the captain had died and sailed her with a valuable cargo from New Orleans to New York. This brought him to notice in connection with his proficiency in navigation and he was again put in command of a vessel supplying the Bolivian



Government, by running the blockade of the Spanish Navy at the time Bolivar gained the independence of Colombia. The Caribbean Sea was then infested by piratical craft, and his fast sailing vessel, the brig "Cicero," was built expressly for him to run the gauntlet of these corsairs and buccaneers. My brother Ebenezer, of whom our Vice President made mention in his former address, I will correct a bit by saying that his ship "Abigail" was burned by the pirate Wordell of the Confederate armed ship "Shenandoah." Himself and crew with the crews of four other ships burned, were allowed to go their way on a bonded ship, 150 in number. Ebenezer called for volunteers among the five captains to equip a boat and elude the "Shenandoah" into the Arctic to warn other vessels to escape, but all shrunk from the task—none offered. He then decided to head the bold venture and called for volunteers from the crew, which he readily obtained, and passing under the cover of night passed by the "Shenandoah," was successful upon his mission, for which he received the commendation of the Washington Government, as well as the owners of the vessels he saved. Eighteen years later, in penetrating the ice of the Arctic Ocean, his ship was crushed, and with his crew perished on his nineteenth voyage in that frozen sea. Quite coincident with this was my brother Ephraim, shot dead in his nineteenth battle at Fort Steadman near Petersburg, Va., just as the last gun was fired before the surrender of Lee at Appomattox.

As for your humble servant, I don't think he will rise to a lofty eminence, even though he should win that "battle still on" at Onset Bay.

Hon. William A. Nye, Senator from the Cape, made a brief but finely rendered address.

On motion of George H. Nye of Auburn, N. Y., it was voted to send the greeting of the Nye family to the Alden kindred, assembled at Plymouth, Mass.

A letter was read by the Secretary from Mr. Charles H. Nye, who was the promoter and founder of the reunion, but unable to be present on account of ill health.





HYANNIS, Aug. 15, 1904.

## FRIENDS AND RELATIVES:

It is a great disappointment not to be able to meet with you today to celebrate the first anniversary of the Nye Family Reunion.

I have been looking forward to this reunion with much pleasure, thinking I would be well and able to attend, but such is not the case. My doctor says that I have not strength enough to attend such a gathering. I am exceedingly sorry, as I made a great dependence on attending and shaking the hands of many that have the Nye blood in their veins.

Hoping that you will have an enjoyable meeting and not regret that you have attended the Nye Reunion of 1904,

Yours respectfully,

CHARLES HENRY NYE.

The evening session was largely attended. Mrs. Carrie M. Boyden sang two songs, which were beautifully rendered, accompanied by her autoharp.

The speaker of the evening was Hon. Frank M. Nye of Minneapolis, Minn., a brilliant lawyer of the West and a brother of the famous humorist, "Bill Nye." Mr. Nye spoke extempore, substantially as follows:

## MR. PRESIDENT, KINDRED AND FRIENDS:

I hardly know how to express myself on this occasion. It is always embarrassing to be introduced as a brother of Bill Nye, although I am proud of that relationship. Certainly I have not had it in mind to undertake anything humorous, but I am going to speak to you in a plain and off-hand way and say to you, first of all, that I feel very much at home. I know that when I was a little boy, my mother used to insist upon some declamations when company came or when the relatives came around, and that was the most embarrassing time to deliver a declamation, and so, standing here before so many of those I know to be my kindred, I hardly know how to address you with that freedom which I feel in my Western home. Your hospitality and your kindly spirit





have certainly won my regards and my thanks. I am always glad to speak to members of the family, and the representatives of the home, for the inexpressible charm of that word "home" always fills us with an indescribable feeling.

The nation has been beautifully typified by the figure of the tree. Its trunk is the home; its roots run down into the soil of labor and struggle; its three main branches are the schoolhouse, the church and the ballot box. Its foliage is intelligence, patriotism and religion; its flowers are liberty, equality and fraternity, and its fruit peace, plenty and prosperity. However far the figure may be from the humdrum facts of life, we grow and advance as a nation and as a people in proportion as we hold the ideal of home constantly in our mind.

It is true that the home means everything, perhaps more so in a republic than in any other form of government. The three branches of government, through which the intelligence and power of the people are exercised, rise and spring out of the home. Neither in intelligence, nor in religion, nor patriotism can we be pre-eminent except as we have strong, pure homes, and I often think that these homes are most numerous among the plain people of the country.

We of the West idolize men of the Lincoln type; men who are stalwart in physique, splendid specimens of manhood, though with comparatively little of the culture which the schools afford. Yet we see these men, with the fibre and sinew and strength of steel, lead in times of a great crisis. We see this great man of the West, Lincoln, whom some of the more cultured people of this land, especially for a time, looked down upon in disdain; this raw rail splitter, this man who seemed to come up from the depths of obscurity, lead us out of the darkness of national distress into the bright light of moral victory. We see this class of men are strong in their faith. They have faith in the good that is in men and in the common, plain men of the world. These men touch the chords of the human soul, and this great man, when he came to Baltimore in disguise, we find trusting the great heart of America rather than the brain and the intellect and the culture of the learned. We see him speak to the land, and a million brave boys come to the front. We see him speak to the ocean, and a great navy crowns its waves,



We see him speak to the nation's resources, its credit, and even Wall street opens its treasure. It is because such men as these had faith in themselves and faith in the great underlying strength of the plain people; it is because of this that we have been a great people. I am impressed tonight, as I look back almost fifty years to my early childhood and remember my own father and relatives in Maine who went West. I think of these plain men, unlearned, as the term goes, but they were useful men of the world. They were all earnest working men. They built for the generations to come. I think tonight, with a touch of pathos, of those old days. I think of the western hardship in the pioneer country, and of the honest hands and the true hearts that built in the wilderness homes, and I am impressed as I look over the faces of the Nyes who are here before me now, that you have wrought a greater work, no doubt, in this country, than you perhaps dream of.

I attended a unique occasion near my old home in Wisconsin last spring, where they gave a reception to a man 100 years old, a native of Virginia, but who went into northern Wisconsin fifty years ago; a man who cut down the first tree in the county and who lived for months and years in the company of the savages, listening only to the warwhoop and the savage beast, and I saw the sturdy old citizens by the hundred gather in this town to pay their respects and tribute of regard to this simple and really unlearned, but honest, man. I heard some people say, "What has this old man ever done? True he has been an honest man, temperate and hard working, but he has never cut any figure." This man who for a hundred years had been true to a life of industry and virtue, true as the needle to the pole, he and such as he, are among the most positive and helpful influences under God.

I am glad my father if he wasn't brilliant, if he wasn't a genius, has left the abiding memory of a virtuous, honest, faithful life.

We are too much given in these days to worship mere brain. The last twenty-five years have had a tendency to divorce it too much from the heart, but the heart still moves the world. It was the heart that brought victory to this country in its hour of trial. It was the heart in the days of the Revolution that won the victory. It was the heart of Livingston that lighted up the dark continent of Africa. It was the heart of Him on the Cross that sent its benign





and beautifying influence like rays of living light down through 2,000 years. It is when the brain takes counsel of the heart that the man is truly great, and it is as man marches to the music of the heart that the nation moves in splendid progress along the course of high civilization.

We are indeed indebted to the past, and the first lesson, it seems to me, of this day, is a lesson of gratitude. We are the heirs of all the rich and wondrous past. Labor, science, philosophy, art, literature, have laid their trophies at our feet. We are enriched by all the splendid past, by all its genius, all its art, all its science, all its patriotism. The heroes are not dead. If we could look with clear and scientific vision into the real law of life, we should see that the hero still lives. Leonidas is still in the pass at Thermopylæ. Nelson is still on the bloody deck; the grand old Putnams, Prescotts and Warrens still live. I never felt it as I have since my visit to this eastern shore, when I looked on your Concord, your Lexington, and your Bunker Hill, and I seem to feel in my very soul that these men in spirit live today and are the light and soul and genius of our institutions. In the humdrum of life we get a confused and imperfect notion of what is real and what is, perhaps, only apparent. We do not properly distinguish between substance and show. Substance has been defined as that which stands under and supports; that which creates and classifies. We look out into your beautiful groves here and see your magnificent elms. No two people look upon the elm the same. The alert business man tells you how many cords of wood it will make for the market. The weary traveler knows its grateful shade, but the philosopher knows there is something there, a principle of life which inspires love in his soul.

The scholar tells us that all the vegetable world is reducible to four primary elements. What is the power that takes this common stuff and makes it a rose here, and a violet there, and a dahlia here? What makes it an orange in Florida and a pine in Maine? An olive in Egypt and a palm in Greece? What is the substance that does that? Isn't the real substance that which makes this elm tree an elm, which makes the orange in Florida and which makes the pine in Maine? The real substance and the real life is the unseen which these physical senses of ours take no cognizance of,



and so in the great life of the nation, what is its real substance? its wealth? its harvests? O, no. Better than all the wheat fields that wave upon our beautiful western prairies, better than all the wealth of our mines, better than all the commerce that moves on the land or blossoms on the sea, are the homes of the men and the women and the children of this republic. Nor does the nation consist altogether of its mere aggregate population, its mere numerical strength. It is in that spirit which resides in the splendid inspiration of your Putnams, your Prescotts and your Warrens; in the almost divine manhood of your Lincolns, in the sturdy character of your Grants, in the splendor of your Sheridans and the determination of your Shermans, in your Deweys, and your great and illustrious men who have been the inspiration of this country and have made its banner of beauty an emblem of the unseen life which is from God and God alone. This is the greatness of the nation and the greatness of the republic. It comes from the hearts; the hearts of the plain, working, industrious, enterprising people, east and west, north and south. I am beginning to be conceited enough to believe that the Nyes have had a hand in it.

But our view of substance. What does it amount to? What do our ideas of value amount to? Value! Whether you measure by gold dollars or a day's work. The man who relieves human suffering, the man who brings a tear of joy in the place of a groan and agony, has performed a service which shall live after your wealth has rotted and your grand kings of earth shall have gone down in oblivion.

What are the sources of power in this country? It is not your Presidents, your Senators nor your House of Representatives. These are but stations of delegated power for the moment and for the time. Back of all these is the strong and mighty spirit of a free, independent and noble people.

We can imagine the battlefield's terrible struggle. Some of you have stood upon these fields of carnage amid the din and roar of conflict and seen your comrades fall and heard the shouts of victory above the groans of the dying. You say it is a wonderful exhibition of power, and it is, but it is the final exhibition of power, not the source of it. Go back to the plain, humble, and it may be desolate firesides of our land. Go back where the weeping





wife sits in the home and the husband goes out to the battle; where the sobbing children say their sad farewell to father as he leaves all that is dear; go back to the humble homes of the country. There is the source of your country's power and your country's patriotism.

All the great conflicts in history have been, at the bottom, moral conflicts, and civilization has advanced in proportion to the depth of its moral sentiment.

I was invited by the old veterans yesterday to march in the streets of Boston behind our beautiful flag and by the side of our old veterans that are so rapidly falling out on the march of life. As we were passing along, I think it was on Commonwealth avenue, I saw two little boys who had perched themselves on the statue of William Lloyd Garrison, and I thought it was a figure well worthy of remembrance. It was childhood, with its hope, with its life, with its purity, clinging to the bronze statue of one of the greatest heroes of American history, William Lloyd Garrison. And I thought of the magnificent and splendid Wendell Phillips, the light of your New England. I thought of him in his early and splendid manhood when a fortune lay before him either in politics or in law, a man who could have reached the highest stations in the world as men commonly view them, and I see him as he ponders over the lesson of this same old William Lloyd Garrison dragged in the streets of Boston. It was then that Wendell Phillips was born. It was then that a new soul, fired by the flame of heaven, rose, and that splendid orator, the most magnificent this nation has ever produced for forty years, spoke, hammering it into the common heart that slavery is a moral wrong and that this country must be free, and that every man, black though he be, is a child of God still as much as the white man and that he should have an opportunity to rise in his manhood. I thought of the moral victory we won forty years ago, of the Garrisons, Phillips, and the Beechers, backed by the splendid free spirit of New England and of the North and the West, that finally culminated in striking off the shackles of four millions of slaves.

The great forces of the universe are moral. There is a veracity at the center. Truth and right are omnipotent.

I think tonight of my father, the hard working, honest old man





in his humble home in Wisconsin, gone to his rest some eighteen years. But I did not see his power then. I did not appreciate his real greatness. I knew that he could go to the bank and borrow more money on his own note, or without a note, than his farm was worth. I knew that he would never owe a man a dollar and neglect to pay it. I knew that every day's work was not for self, but for his family and his home. I know he often told us boys above all things to be straight, to be true, to be honest, but the lapse of years now throws a splendor upon that plain, that obscure character, which teaches me that power is in honesty and truth and the common, plain virtues.

I think sometimes as a consequence of this divorcement of the brain from the heart, that we are weakening a little bit in moral fibre. Of course, if the emergency comes, there is virtue enough in this country to save it in its darkest hour of trial. But is honesty as common a commodity as in the early days?

This is a marvelous age when we think of its inventive genius and the skill and ingenuity of our day. We have brought our inventions to a condition in which production is possible almost without any labor. We are supplying the world by our inventive genius and our marvelous achievements in material progress, but we will never find anything that will take the place of individual integrity. When that is gone, the nation is gone.

Rome had more troops shortly before her fall than she had had in the days of her greatest glory and strength, but she had become enervated, her arm had been unnerved for the lack of moral strength and the common virtues, which have made New England strong and mighty, and which have given the breath of living endurance to the west as well as to the east. Your wealth today is not so much in the seen, as it is in the unseen spirit of your Washington, your Adams, your Otis, and your men in all the occupations of life, who, like good old Benjamin Nye, gave their lives to useful labor and to the upbuilding of good manhood and good womanhood. That is the strength and that is the power of this nation.

The forces which make up the civilization of the world are those of conservatism and innovation. Both elements are necessary. Conservatism holds what it has got with a niggardly grasp which



says, "I will keep what I have, for I do not know that I can get more." Radicalism says, "Move on, or you will lose what you have, for he who does not grow, dies." Conservatism always has the worst of the argument, to my mind.

Innovation or radicalism is simply growth. Without radicalism you would have a howling continent of savages today. No band of noble Pilgrims would have crossed the ocean in a sixty-three days' voyage to land upon the then cold and inhospitable shores of this country. Without this you would have had no Benjamin Nye to have contributed to the lasting growth, moral, political and social, which we can esteem at this hour. You would have had no Phillipses, no Garrisons, no Lincolns.

The influence of the early settler! (and by the way I think this is the subject which your Secretary suggested for my address, but I never talk on the subject when I can help it). The influence of the early settler is the influence of growth. He makes the new birth possible.

I was much interested in your papers read today, in some criticism that had been made on Cape Cod. I think you belong to a race of radical people. There may be more conservatism than in the West, but you have virtues here in New England which are the real life and substance of this republic. You have cherished the home institution; you have been faithful and loyal to the men of the country and have made this country what it is, and we in our hurry and bustle in the West need to come down here and take a lesson from your more philosophic life.

When the spirit and character of New England is gone, if it shall ever be, if that which was potential in the Puritan people shall ever be quenched, farewell to liberty and farewell to all that is enduring and true in this republic that we love.

You are prosperous in business here, but I do not think that this Atlantic coast is the seat of monopolies. I think sometimes that our country is something like a great big furnace where we are shoveling coal in all the time at one end and grinding dollars out at the other end. I think sometimes, when I see the wild scramble of the American people for wealth, that the old simplicity of life is passing away and that we are getting a little boastful and a little conceited in our material achievements. Like the man of old who





is mentioned in the Bible whose farm had brought forth plentifully and he hadn't room to store away his goods, and he thought within himself, "This will I do, I will tear down these barns and build larger and in these will I bestow all my fruits and my goods and I will say to my soul, eat, drink and be merry." He was a great egotist; he was blind. He could not call down a drop of rain or dew; he could not stay the early frost nor keep back the storm and tempest. If he had had more fraternal feeling for his fellow man; if he had remembered with a kindly heart the men who had toiled in the burden and heat of the day to fill his barns, he might not have had so much. His barns might not have been so full. But avenging wisdom said, "Thou fool, this night shall thy soul be required of thee." It was as much as to say, "What have you to show for a lifetime?" You have nothing to show but the ability to eat and drink. I will have you regard your neighbor as yourself; I will require soul, I will require love, and not momentary pleasure of the mere material senses.

The parable is as true in its application to a nation as to an individual. You will hear in this campaign the boast of many an orator of the vast and accumulating wealth of this country. I thank God for it. I thank him for the fertile fields of the west and for the rich minerals of the mines. All wealth is God-given, an instrument for good, but the love of money is the root of all evil, and the criticism upon our nation today is that we are a greedy people, too eager for the dollar, and too oblivious to the home and oblivious to the moral and spiritual life of the republic, without which we can have no republic. This is the lesson. We want to get back to plain, simple life.

I feel tonight, somehow, almost devoutly thankful that my parents were poor. I do not know but what the little individual merit I have is due to the fact that when I was a boy I was compelled to work and to be useful. The true fibre and strength of this American people comes from the work and hardship that the boys had to endure. It was the boys from the farm and workshops that made this nation possible. There are few men relatively in this world who can be rich and preserve the full strength of their manhood. The wholesome, honest influence of toil is the power



which God has given to poor weak man to help him on the road to intellectual and moral worth.

I have read of a poor Irishman who was offered a seat in the British Parliament for life and was offered British gold enough to make him rich, if he would vote for a certain bill that came before Parliament, but he turned it down and voted against the bill which would rob his country of its liberty. The old man died and on the mantel was a single sixpence, all that he had, and on the mantel also was a piece of paper on which he had written, "Ireland forever, and to hell with the Borough." There is grandeur and sublimity in such honest poverty. The men who can withstand temptation at such a time, these are the men who dwell among the crowned heads above, living immortal in the memories of the generations to come, while the earthly crowns of kings shall have rotted forever in oblivion.

But I do not take a pessimistic view of our country and of our time. We have proved that the plain sturdy people of the American republic will save it in the darkest hour. Have faith in the omnipotence of good and the omnipotence of right and if we teach these to our children, whatever may be the virtue of our ancestors, they will remember us with ever increasing gratitude.

I have endeavored to speak to you tonight in a plain way upon these plain subjects. I somehow feel that there is a manifest appreciation here among you of these virtues which have made your ancestors and made you, and I believe that the more intelligent people of this republic are coming to understand better what constitutes the real civilization and the real patriotism and the real strength of this republic. Some people say that I am sentimental. It is sentiment that moves the world. It is the sentiment of the public that makes and unmakes law. Public sentiment is the origin and source of law and if the law isn't right, public sentiment will change it. Never need we fear that this republic will go down until we grow weak in the plain virtues which our fathers loved and which we love. What is there in the flag that we love? What is there in the material of which it is made? It is the sentiment of patriotism hallowed by the battle field, made sacred by the memories of the heroes living and dead, that we love. It is this sentiment that moves you in this beautiful gathering. It is some-



thing outside of self; it is a sentiment that wove the first threads in the Flag of Liberty. We may have a curiosity and a desire to know more of the great family tree and the branch that we belong to; it is commendable, but the great lesson of the day is the lesson of fraternity.

Nations are neighbors now. States used to be sisters; now nations are sisters and we are feeling and believing, as someone said today, in the fatherhood of God and the universal brotherhood of man. Time has changed many things. It has wiped out sectional lines and has blended the blue and the gray in a spirit of fraternity, and we are feeling that our national tree is to grow on forever and that its leaves are to be for the healing of all the nations of the earth.

Storms and tempests may come to the old Ship of State, but that sturdy character of our plain men and women will enable her to outride every storm. As Holmes said in his "Ironsides":

"Nail to the mast her holy flag,  
Set every threadbare sail,  
Then give her to the God of storm,  
The lightning and the gale."

Thursday morning, August eighteenth, the business meeting was held, a large audience being present.

After the organ prelude by Miss Hope Kerr, prayer was offered by the pastor of the First Parish Church, Rev. Milton Kerr. Because of the business which was to come before the family, the order of the exercises was somewhat changed.

The Treasurer's report was read and approved.

The Secretary's report was read and accepted. One suggestion made by her should appeal to *every member* of the family, *far* and *near*, that the Nye family erect a memorial building in Sandwich, Mass., to be used as a public library, and where the records and historical relics of the family may be preserved. The report was as follows:





**MR. PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE NYE FAMILY ASSOCIATION :**

On the eighth of August, 1903, we closed a very pleasant reunion, having during the three days' convention formed the Nye Family of America Association upon a permanent basis, and it is again with much pride and pleasure that I welcome you to the second reunion of our family, and trust that your stay among us may be pleasant and profitable. As the records of the first reunion are in print and have been circulated largely among our members, if there are no objections I shall omit the reading of them.

In September the executive committee met and organized with Mr. William F. Nye of Fairhaven as chairman, and Mrs. S. Curtis Smith as secretary. In accordance with a vote passed at the reunion, That one person should be added to the committee from each state and territory, the following names were added :

Hon. David J. Nye,	. . . .	Elyria, Ohio.
Mrs. Helen Nye Rupp,	. . . .	Monmouth, Ill.
Benjamin F. Nye,	. . . .	Highgate Centre, Vt.
Mrs. F. A. Scott,	. . . .	Ottawa, Ontario.
Stephen A. Nye,	. . . .	Valley City, No. Dakota.
Robert P. Oldham,	. . . .	Seattle, Wash.
Leon F. Nye,	. . . .	Kansas City, Mo.
Frederic L. Nye,	. . . .	Washington, D. C.
E. Nye Hutchinson,	M. D.,	Charlotte, No. Carolina.
Frank Nye,	. . . .	Denver, Colo.
Daniel Nye,	. . . .	Warsaw, Ind.
George L. Nye,	. . . .	Salt Lake City, Utah.
John W. Nye,	. . . .	Manchester, N. H.
Robert W. Thompson,	. . . .	Middletown, Conn.
Dr. Jane Gilliford,	. . . .	Alleghany City, Penn.
Albert W. Nye,	. . . .	Kearney, Neb.
William S. Sturgis,	. . . .	Arivoca, Arizona.
Thomas J. Nye,	. . . .	Fresnella Zac, Mexico.

Since that time two committee meetings have been held in Boston, at which arrangements were made for this reunion. The committees appointed to assist in the work are as follows :



*Reception Committee:*

Mr. and Mrs. William L. Nye.  
Mr. and Mrs. James L. Wesson.  
Mr. and Mrs. S. Curtis Smith.  
Mr. and Mrs. George H. Nye.

*Committee on Music:*

Mrs. Henry A. Belcher.

*Committee on Entertainment:*

Mrs. William L. Nye.

*Press Committee:*

Mrs. Henry A. Belcher.

*Transportation Committee:*

Mr. James L. Wesson and Mr. Henry A. Belcher.

*Badge Committee:*

Mr. A. S. Nye and Mr. H. A. Belcher.

Mr. William L. Nye was appointed to make arrangements with the managers of the hotel as to table board.

The association failing to appoint a committee to publish the proceedings of the first reunion, it fell to the lot of your secretary to attend to the matter. Postal cards were sent to about nine hundred Nyes, telling of the publication, which resulted in a call for 250 copies. As the book was expensive, costing with postage 50 cents, it was not deemed advisable to order more than we had a call for. Later more orders came, but the supply was exhausted. Through the generosity of Mr. William F. Nye of Fairhaven, Mass., 250 copies were issued, of which 65 have been sold.

Since our last reunion, we have been called to mourn the death of Rev. Ezra Nye Smith of North Falmouth. Mr. Smith was with us last year and took an active part in the meetings. Mr. F. Wolcott Jackson of Newark, N. J.; Mr. Joshua Nye of Boston, Mass.; Mrs. William F. Nye of Fairhaven, Mass.; and Miss Lizzie A. Nye of Sandwich, Mass.

While the duties of your secretary have been arduous, they have also been very pleasant, bringing her in correspondence with Nyes in nearly every State in the Union, and the enthusiasm and interest





with which the family have responded to her call, have been of great assistance to her in her work.

The one sentiment which she gathered from the echo of the united Nyes in all parts of the country is, Let the good work go on.

The principal aim of our association together as the Nye Family of America, is to gather all of the history of our ancestors and to promote a feeling of pride in this and succeeding generations in the history of our family and its founders.

In the old forum at Rome we may still behold the site of the golden milestone, to which all of the roads which traversed the Roman Campagna led. It is thus in our family history. If we go through the vista of years which have elapsed since this country was settled, whether we take our steps by generation to generation, stopping if we wish to honor our own immediate ancestor, or if we go by each epoch of our country's history in which our family has had its part from now till then, we must arrive at the central figure of our family history, Benjamin Nye, whose memory we should never forget to honor in all gatherings of the family. We there see the figure of a man of sterling integrity and of intencness of purpose, of whom it might be said,

"I ask not that for me the plan of good and ill be set aside,  
But that the common lot of man  
Be nobly borne and glorified."

He was not only the founder of the family of Nyes, but was also one of the earliest settlers and founders of the town of Sandwich. Looking backward upon the band of settlers of the Plymouth colony, who, through hardship and suffering, were the men to whom this country of ours is indebted for its foundation upon principles which have withstood the lapse of years, we find among this band the name of Benjamin Nye, and this alone should create in us a glorious pride in our birthright. And when we stop and reflect upon what it means to come of a family that struck its roots into American soil more than two hundred and fifty years ago, and during that time have given the best of its manhood and womanhood to the upbuilding of this country and its government, its judiciary, and its defenders by land and by sea, it should strengthen our feeling of pride more and more.



A notable example of devotion to his country and fireside was the death of one of our ancestors in the Indian war with King Philip. Whether it was father or son, the records still remain that Benjamin Nye was killed at Rehoboth, and is a just source of pride to us. After a long and prosperous life our ancestor was gathered to his fathers, leaving a large family of children, who with their children and their children's children played their part in building up this town and its immediate vicinity. In the Revolutionary War they took an active part in the defence of our country, no doubt being present at Bunker Hill, and in the long and gloomy winter at Valley Forge, and again at Yorktown, and we may imagine that at the close of the war they listened with pride and joy to the peal of the old Liberty Bell at Philadelphia, which proclaimed the birth of a new nation, partly born by their efforts and by their struggles and hardships. During this period, the voice of one of my own ancestors, Stephen Nye, was heard in the Continental Congress at Watertown, in defence of our rights as against England. Shortly after the close of this war, we find them as pioneers and settlers of the great Northwest, and the magnificent states and cities of the West are testimonies of pride to us that our forefathers helped to establish. During the decade from then until the War of the Rebellion, we find the family scattered through the Union from shore to shore, engaged in active duties of life.

Again in the war for the preservation of the Union which our ancestors had helped to establish, we find them both as leaders and as private soldiers, always doing their part well. We are honored today in having present with us several of the veterans of the Civil War by the name of Nye. One especially, who served his country devotedly during the entire war, rising from a private soldier to the rank of Brigadier General. I refer to Gen. George H. Nye of Boston, whom we all delight to honor.

I have only given a glimpse of the family history, which should stir up among us that just feeling of pride in the name we bear. And as through their efforts they have left to us a goodly heritage, not only in an honorable name but in substance, this glorious country of ours which we may all enjoy, and as they have passed into the great unknown, we should, I think, honor their memory in a substantial manner by the erection of a memorial here in Sand-



wich, the scene of their lives and labors. And if any memorial is to be erected to them, let it be one that will not only be fitting to their memory, but a source of pride and pleasure to all who bear the family name, and all descendants of Benjamin Nye, our ancestor. Let it also be an educator for the coming generations, and my suggestion would be that we erect here in Sandwich a Nye Memorial Building, to be used partly as a Public Library and also as an archive for the safe deposit of the documents and data of our family history.

Respectfully submitted,

MRS. HENRY ALDEN BELCHER,

Secretary of the Nye Family Association.

Mr. George H. Nye of Auburn, N. Y., was then introduced, who gave a very interesting paper. At the close of his paper, he presented to the "Nye Family Association," all of the historical matter which for years he has been collecting and which is now ready for publication. This announcement was received with great applause. Mr. Nye's paper was as follows:

Twelve months have rolled away since Benjamin Nye's descendants met at their first reunion in this old, historic town, and as the pamphlet of those proceedings is again read and the events of that gathering recalled, the wisdom of the reunion impresses itself more and more upon the reader. The Nye family has indeed been fortunate in many respects, first that so many of its members have committed to writing matters of family history that otherwise long ago would have passed from memory, and as I ransack my papers to comply with the command of our efficient Secretary (for any request from her should have all the force of a command) to furnish another paper, it seems to me that much more might be done in that direction and much better than I can attempt to do it. Many things of interest might be related by the actors themselves or by those fully conversant with the details while my efforts must be more in the nature of compiling material gathered from various sources.

We are again fortunate in having for Secretary one of executive ability necessary to make these reunions a perfect success, and





Briareus and his brethren, those fabled giants of antiquity with their hundred hands, could not be more far reaching than she has been in searching out the members of our family scattered throughout the length and breadth of our country. It was understood that in preparing a paper to read at this second reunion that the historical sketch of the family had been practically covered the preceding year but that there would be culled from my notes such as might be deemed of interest.

Now as they are ransacked the difficulty becomes more and more apparent. No doubt could surround their veracity because was it not Bill Nye himself who had assured us that there were only three great liars, that he was one and some other persons not at all connected with the family the other two; and Bill Nye, alas, was dead! Should I assume the role of a necrologist and give a long list of biblical names with the dates of death?

While of historical value for those searching a record of their line of ancestors it could hardly interest an audience. The Revolutionary service of members of the family is also valuable but would not prove entertaining. Joshua Nye's sketch of the North Falmouth Nyes lies before me. It is dated November, 1858, and contains many facts of importance but all have been heretofore used. Next come the notes of the father of the Nye reunion, Hon. Charles H. Nye of Hyannis, a mass of information, and among the large amount of family history appear such scattering items as "Cape Cod railroad incorporated 1846, opened for travel 1848" and the thought occurs what a paper he might write in connection with the methods of travel along the Cape and the development in that direction.

Again I strike "Minot's lighthouse built 1849, caved away April, 1851," intercalated between extracts from old family bibles, military records, references to old deeds, wills, volumes in public libraries to consult, and other notes and memoranda, and I wonder what he might write or may have written concerning Cape Cod and its history, civil, political, and military. Many of us possess more or less knowledge of family matters, and it should be the duty of each to transmit to posterity what might otherwise be forgotten.

Shall I speak of those in our family now living, famed in pulpit or letters, or bench, or bar? I shall then encroach upon our Secre-



tary's prerogatives for she intends sooner or later to impress them all into service and let them speak for themselves. Shall I tell how when a Nye wanders nine thousand miles from home his expectant bride goes to meet him? We may depend upon it, he was worth going after, but some one in Sagamore could tell the story to better advantage. Shall I discuss the whaling interests of New Bedford, and relate how a Nye has made his name known the world over in connection therewith and his oils the recognized standard of purity. Shall I consider the value of Onset Bay Stock and the intricacies and enjoyments of legal tilts? Certainly someone in Fairhaven could make the matter much more interesting. Could not someone in Lynn write of Joseph W. Nye, the poet friend of Whittier? Edgar W. Nye's name is engraven on the pages of history and as Bill Nye he is known in every household, but a most interesting paper might be written concerning him. Among those of our family celebrated in politics, that of Governor, afterward Senator James W. Nye, the jolly joker of the United States Senate, deserves more than passing attention, for while in case of need the eloquence of a Nye may invoke tears, as Minneapolis can testify, it is more of a family trait to provoke laughter and where James W. Nye was, good nature ever attended. Ex-Lieutenant Governor Mortimer Nye, who was stricken while delivering a Fourth of July oration, also deserves more space in the family annals and there should be those living who could give a sketch of his career. It has been my good fortune on many occasions to listen to the reminiscences of General George H. Nye, and others who have had the like pleasure will join in saying that one who volunteered for service in our Civil War should not wait to be drafted into this.

Shall I tell the story of the shipwreck of the "John Rutledge," and of the survival of but one, and that one a Nye, out of the hundred and forty-seven persons on board? Again let Fairhaven answer. Are yachting, hunting or fishing tales of the Cape and bay asked for? We must still look to Fairhaven and Joseph K. Nye should tell the story, with all due regard to the length and weight of the fish. Do we wish to revel in the memories of the past and admire the genuine and authentic possessions of our ancestors (I am not speaking of the Tupper house), old pine tree shillings, warming pans, spinning wheels, muskets with their





notched records of Indians sent to their happy hunting grounds, with relics of many a shipwreck washed ashore on the Cape's relentless coastline?

A visit to Wellfleet will then well repay you; but should we permit Everett I. Nye to keep all his good stories for those alone who are able to go there? Cannot Falmouth with its valuable Historical Society, after which Sandwich might well pattern, furnish us with material for many a reunion, and in support thereof I quote from a letter from its President, received but a few weeks ago: "You will be interested to learn that we obtained within a month an old Indian deed of land in North Falmouth to John and Ebenezer Nye in 1696," but is not some one there better calculated to tell the story?

Freeman, in his history of Cape Cod, dedicates the Annals of Falmouth to its present secretary, Mr. Robinson Crocker Bodfish, "a descendant from one of the earliest settlers of Sandwich, whose lineage is also traced to Robinson, the Leyden pastor, and in whose veins is commingling the blood of the Nyes, the Ellises, the Dimmicks, and the Crockers, and whose filial reverence for ancestry is worthy of imitation."

And it is to this descendant of Benjamin Nye that we should look, and I have good reason to think not in vain, for copious notes treasured up and committed to writing. Could Mr. Bodfish be induced to give but an outline of what I hope some day to see published we would be well entertained. So far liberties have been taken with members of the family with whom I have more or less acquaintance, by invoking their aid without asking their consent, but as the notes are wandered through and so many sources of information disclosed where much family history might be obtained, it is hard to make up one's mind to specify those who might add to our general fund of knowledge and therefore, in behalf of the Nye family I would impress upon you all the importance of at once committing to paper all records of family matters. One link may complete a broken chain and connect matter otherwise incomplete, and in consequence valueless. Knowledge confined to one's own brain must necessarily die when that brain ceases to perform its functions, and if I am apparently too persistent in trying to impress the wisdom of not postponing such matters it is because in two



instances it has been impressed upon me by witnessing the struggles of those near me in endeavoring to tell what no longer could be told.

If it had not been that many of our ancestors had done much for us we could never have accomplished what already has been achieved. Most particularly would I appeal to those of the Cape, for here memory is most treacherous, owing to the attractions of her fair daughters who drive all recollections of some important events from the brain.

This was ascertained last year upon being introduced to a resident of one of the towns, which shall be nameless. Learning that I was from Auburn, N. Y., he informed me that he had married his first wife near there. Becoming interested I asked her name. Looks of hesitancy, doubt, consternation followed each other in rapid succession and he finally had to confess that he had forgotten, and if the story impresses upon anyone the moral I wish to convey, it will have served a useful purpose.

I am sure its telling will cause no serious estrangement in the family should it perchance be read in that household. In the State of Pennsylvania is a large and flourishing colony of a Nye family, the members of which up to this time we have been unable to connect with the descendants of Benjamin Nye. I have had some correspondence with their historian, Mr. Andrew A. Nye of North Sewickley, who after reading the proceedings of our first reunion wrote me. He is particularly anxious to get any information concerning the New Jersey Nyes from which state he says their Pennsylvania progenitor came over one hundred years ago.

In my address delivered last year I referred to Ebenezer F. Nye who commanded the Whaler *Abigail*, captured during the Civil War by the Confederate privateer "*Shenandoah*," and he referred me to an account of the cruise of the latter, written by Cornelius E. Hunt, one of her crew, published by the National Tribune of Washington, D. C., wherein occurs the following description of the capture of the "*Abigail*," and as it is written in an entertaining manner I reproduce it.

"About noon May 21st, the lookout reported a sail in sight but it was some time ere anyone could distinguish it, but before three o'clock she was distinctly made out standing towards us and we made more sail to come up with her. A long stretch of field ice,





however, intervened between us and the stranger, which we were partially obliged to circumnavigate ere we could reach her.

We stood along close by the western margin of the field ice until we rounded its northern point, when we showed the Russian ensign as the most appropriate one for a vessel of our appearance to fly in those high latitudes, to which she responded by running up the stars and stripes. The Russian flag was immediately lowered and in its place we showed the Confederate stars and bars, and a blank cartridge from our twelve pounder brought her to. An officer was then dispatched on board, who informed the captain that his vessel was a prize to the Confederate States Steamer 'Shenandoah,' to which he must proceed at once with his papers.

The skipper looked at him for a moment, scratched his head, laid in a fresh chew of tobacco, and then remarked as coolly as if giving the order to heave up his anchor, 'Well, I suppose I'm taken, but who on earth would have thought of seeing one of your Southern privateers up here in the Ochotsk Sea. I have heard of some of the pranks you fellows have been playing, but I supposed I was out of your reach.' 'Why, the fact of the business is, captain,' replied the officer facetiously, 'we have entered into a treaty offensive and defensive with the whales, and are up here by special agreement to disperse their mortal enemies.'

'All right, my friend, I never grumble at anything I can't help, but the whales needn't owe me much of a grudge, for the Lord knows I haven't disturbed them this voyage, though I've done my part at blubber hunting in years gone by. But it's cold talking here, come below and take something to warm your stomach while I get my papers.'

In a little time the nonchalant old captain announced himself in readiness, and in company with our officer came on board the 'Shenandoah.' Shortly after the crew, numbering about thirty, were brought off in their own whaleboats. They were of similar timber to their commander, and one of them remarked as he came over the side that 'he had not expected to take steam home, and to tell the truth he had just as soon trust to sail,' but they accepted their change of fortune with general good humor, and even single irons and confinement in the top gallant forecabin did not seem to materially depress their spirits. On the whole they were about as





plucky and sailorlike a set of fellows as fell into our hands during the entire cruise.

We remained near the prize all night, taking out such stores as suited our fancy; there was a quantity of liquor on board, which the captain had brought along with the view of trading for furs on the coast of Siberia. This part of the whaler's cargo was soon nosed out by our forecastle gentry, and before our officers knew what was going on a cask had been broached and the greater part of one watch was about as gloriously drunk as men well can be. As soon as this was discovered the inebriates were shut in the fore-castle and the more obstreperous placed in irons; but while this discipline was progressing the rest got wind of the captured treasure, and by the time one detachment was secured another was in condition to receive the same polite attention we had shown their fellows.

In brief, I think it was the most general and stupendous spree I ever witnessed. There were not a dozen sober men on board the ship except the prisoners, and had these not been ironed it might have proved a dearly bought frolic. Some of the petty officers were as thoroughly inebriated as the men, and had to be confined to their quarters by sheer force. The carpenter, I remember, twice burst out of his room where we had attempted to imprison him, and finally we had to furnish 'old chips' with a pair of bracelets and tie him in his bunk to cool off. We never captured a prize that created so much excitement as this and we never captured one of so little value.

She had taken but a small quantity of oil, was a regular old tub, at least fifty years old, and excepting the whiskey, had nothing in her of any consequence worth taking. We removed twenty-five barrels of the extract of corn to be used in case of sickness, and then set the old hulk on fire. She was the "Abigail" of New Bedford, commanded by Captain Nye, a veteran whaler, who gained the good will of our officers by his never failing good humor under adverse circumstances, and the shrewdness and tact he displayed upon all occasions."

In searching for historical matter pertaining to the family the following publications may be consulted:



Freeman's History of Cape Cod as well as most of the local histories of the Cape.

American Ancestry, published by Joel Munsells Sons, Albany, volumes 6 and 7. This publication unfortunately was discontinued and much matter intended for publication in consequence omitted.

Davis' Landmarks of Plymouth, Mass.

Hall's History of Auburn, N. Y.

History of Cayuga County, N. Y., published by D. Mason & Co.

Savage's Geneological Dictionary.

Barber's Historical Collections, Massachusetts.

Pioneers of Massachusetts, Pope.

A Trip Around Cape Cod, Perry.

Gibbs Blandford, Mass. Historical address, page 60.

Paige's History of Hardwick, Mass., pages 429-431.

Temple's History of North Brookfield, Mass., pages 693-696.

Giles Memorial by John A. Vinton, pages 209-211.

Centennial History of Lee, Mass., by Rev. C. M. Hyde.

Early Vital Records of Lee, Mass.

Book of the Massachusetts Society, Sons of the Revolution.

New York in the Revolution.

Bangor, Me., Historical Magazine, vol. 6.

Sibley's History of Union, Me., page 482.

History of the First, Tenth, Twenty-ninth Maine Regiments by Maj. John M. Gould.

History of the Tenth Maine Battalion by Rev. Leonard G. Jordon.

Waldo's History of Tolland, Conn., page 129.

Hemenway's Vermont Gazeteer, vol. 4, page 59.

The Empire State in Three Centuries, vol. 3.

Holland's History of Western Mass.

Historical Atlas of Cayuga County, N. Y.

Historical Collections of Ohio, vol. 2, by Henry Howe.

History of the Republican Party in Ohio, vol. 2, by Jos. B. Smith.

Transactions of the Historical and Philosophical Society of Ohio, vol. 1.

Commemorative Biographical Records of the Counties of Huron and Lorain, O.





Bench and Bar of Ohio, vols. 1 and 2.

History of the State of Ohio by Atwater, 1838.

Pioneer History of Ohio, by Hildreth, 1848.

Members of Pioneer Settlers of Ohio, Hildreth, 1852.

History of Washington County, Ohio, Williams, 1881.

Washington County and the Early settlement of Ohio, Andrews.

History of the Washington Family, Wells, 1879.

History of the Town of Easton, Mass.

History of Athens County, Ohio, Walker, 1869.

Report of Commissioners of the National Centennial Celebration of the Early Settlement of the Territory N. W. of Ohio River, published by State of Ohio, 1889.

Life of Ephraim Cutler, 1890.

Bibliography of the State of Ohio, 1880.

History of the Bar of S. Eastern Ohio.

Sketch of Mound Cemetery, Marietta, Ohio.

History of Washington County, O., 1902.

This, be it understood, is not intended as a complete list of published works containing matter relating to the family but given as a nucleus to form one to which may be added from time to time all other works containing similar information, and it will be esteemed a favor if the names of all such be sent in now or as soon as possible hereafter.

Till very recently it had been understood that Benjamin Nye was the progenitor and Sandwich the starting place of all that name in America, but many have been found who for one or another reason are not included. Some are unable to furnish the connecting link because they can go back but one generation with their records and others are apparently connected with a Dutch or German family of the same name, while still others appear to be of French descent, and in one instance I learned of a Danish Nye who had come directly to this country.

Out of so much correspondence comes some pathos and I quote from a letter received from Doctor George L. Nye of Hurricane, W. Va., dated only July 14th of this year. "My oldest son Robert left his school at Wytheville, Va., in 1891 and wrote till June of that year. Men who knew him reported that he went to Montana, and Senator Clark wrote that one of that name had been located



there but had left. He was a clerk in a railroad office at Norton, Va., in 1892 and was known there by railroad men as Victor A. Nye. He was in Sedalia, Mo., in 1893."

Dr. Nye, who appears to be connected with the Pennsylvania Nyes, adds that he has advertised extensively for him without success and wishes me to announce the facts at this reunion in the hope that it may result now or hereafter in his obtaining some knowledge of his missing son. "One touch of human nature makes the whole world kin." Let us hope that his wish may be speedily fulfilled.

Of late many demands upon my time have shortened the hours that could be devoted to matters of so much interest to myself and I believe to all of us, but the stern realities of life demand first place. The request of our Secretary has been complied with as far as circumstances will permit, but where so much has been left undone there is opportunity for many a future reunion.

Some years ago the work of compiling the family history was begun of which last year's paper was a condensed story. As time rolled by the spare moments became less and the demands upon them more pressing. Mr. Frank E. Best was then employed to complete the work and put it in proper form. The original intention had been to publish the work and sell it by subscription at a price that would repay the expenses incurred without any regard to compensation for time, but as the size of the work increased and it became apparent that it might occupy two volumes at a much higher cost than the original estimate it seemed as though it might expose the publisher to a charge of doing the work for a profit.

To give an idea of the extent of the matter already prepared, excluding the history of the family prior to the settlement of Sandwich, there are 419 typewritten folios containing 4,905 names of descendants of Benjamin Nye. The index of these names occupies 90 additional pages while the names of others who have allied themselves by marriage consumes 200 more, making in all 709.

To this if are added the English and Danish matter and accounts of the first and second reunions, which should be included, it may readily be seen that no ordinary volume would contain it. This, be it understood, is a history of the family and not of any branch



and is as complete as it can be hoped to make it till after its publication when its omissions will come to light.

No one individual could possibly have gathered together this amount of information without valuable assistance from those living and equally valuable information left by others who have passed away and are unable to witness the completion of the work. Where so many were joint workers were not all equally entitled to recognition for their co-operation? Then came the inspiration, why should not the history of the Nye family be published by the "Nye Family of America" under its own name? This would do away with any criticism, enable it to be published at a very low cost and whatever profit might ensue would revert to the family itself. It therefore gives me great pleasure to carry out this idea, should the offer be accepted, and I now tender to the Nye Family of America these records, leaving it for this assemblage to decide how, when, and where they shall be published.

In last year's paper the death of Benjamin Nye was given as March 26, 1676, and some explanation in regard thereto has become necessary in view of a recently discovered deed of much later date bearing his name, containing unquestioned testimony as to the grantor being the original Benjamin, one of the first settlers of Sandwich.

Up to a short time prior to the first reunion it had been quite generally understood that Benjamin Nye, Jr., was living after the battle with King Philip's warriors at Rehoboth and that his father was in consequence the one slain in that fight. The list of those who took the oath of fidelity in 1678 was referred to, which list it was said contained the name of Benjamin Nye, and it was urged that no such oath would be required of Benjamin, Senior, as he had previously taken it in 1657.

The newspaper notices of the approaching Nye reunion of 1903 stated that the original Benjamin had lost his life in accordance with the above story. During my researches I became quite doubtful of the correctness of this general belief and saw much to incline one to the conclusion that it was Benjamin, Jr., who lost his life in that manner. These doubts were stated to others but in view of the story having appeared so many times in print it was thought





best, after some consultation, not to raise the question and in consequence he was historically killed and buried for the time being.

Careful reading of the records seems to do away with previous entanglements and make it more certain that Benjamin, Jr., was the one who lost his life at Rehoboth. We shall now endeavor to show the grounds for this statement.

On Feb. 23rd, 1675, the town voted "to record the names of all those that can make appear their just right to the privileges of the town." Among the list appears the name of Benjamin Nye, Sr., showing at that time he must have had a son of the same name. Benjamin Nye, slain by the Indians at Rehoboth, must have been one of these two, no other being then old enough. John Nye, son of Benjamin, had a son of that name but as he was born Nov. 22, 1675, he was quite too young even for those days, being but a few months old.

Ebenezer, son of Benjamin, also had a son named Benjamin, but he was born after the fight, or on November 7th, 1677. Jonathan, son of Benjamin, likewise had a son named Benjamin, but the same will apply, as he was born October 16, 1679.

Therefore Benjamin, father and son, were the only two of that name then living that were old enough to fight. No record of Benjamin, Jr., can be found, except as before stated. We now come to the taking of the oath of fidelity in 1678, and a ray of light is thrown on the subject by a careful reading of the town records. At a meeting July 15, 1678, a list was made of all who *have* taken the oath of fidelity, and the name of Benjamin Nye is the only one of the family in that list. Hence it may be inferred that he was the only Nye living who up to that time had taken the oath in question, and as the only Nye who can be shown to have done so was Benjamin, Sr., in the year 1657, it would appear that these records referred to one and the same person. This is further confirmed by the fact that later on in the same year the same oath was taken by Caleb, Ebenezer, Jonathan and Nathan, all sons of Benjamin.

The following additional records concerning Benjamin appear :

April 29th, 1680. Debts granted to be paid this year, Benjamin Nye, Grand Juryman, £1. 5. 0.



Aug. 16, 1681. A committee was chosen to lay out 9 acres of land above the great pond near Benjamin Nye's for Caleb Nye.

May 19, 1682. The town hath granted to Benjamin Nye, instead of 12 acres of land granted in 1644 to anyone who would build a mill as per record of that date, the town hath instead granted said Benjamin Nye all the land that lyeth within the said Nye's fence, etc. It was this particular extract that first aroused my doubt of the accepted story and we are now forced, because of the recently discovered deed, to believe that the son and not the father fell in that struggle.

A telegram was read from Mr. and Mrs. William L. Nye of Lee, Mass., expressing their regret at not being able to meet with the family.

A copy of the telegram which was sent to the Alden Kindred, was read by the Secretary, and is as follows:

TO GEORGE W. ALDEN,

President of the Alden Kindred, Plymouth, Mass.

In behalf of the Nye Family of America Association, assembled in convention at Sandwich, I tender to the Alden Kindred our cordial good wishes and fraternal greeting. May the work in which you are engaged of fostering a spirit of pride and veneration for those men and women of the olden time, our ancestors, long continue.

HANNAH B. NYE BELCHER,

*Secretary Nye Family Association.*

On motion of Hon. David J. Nye of Elyria, Ohio, it was voted that a telegram of sympathy be sent to Mr. Charles H. Nye of Hyannis, Mass.

On motion of George H. Nye of Auburn, N. Y., it was voted that a committee of five be appointed on the matter of a memorial, as suggested in the Secretary's report. Also on the publication of the Nye History, and a committee of two on Resolutions. These committees to be appointed by the chair.

The committee on Resolutions:

Dr. Jane Gilliford,

Mrs. S. Curtis Smith.





The committee on Memorial and Publication:

George H. Nye,	Henry A. Belcher,
Hon. David J. Nye,	Harold B. Nye,
Mrs. Horace K. Nye.	

On motion of Hon. David J. Nye, it was voted to appoint a committee of seven on Nominations for the ensuing year. The committee to be appointed by the chair.

The committee was appointed as follows:

Hon. David J. Nye	. . .	Elyria, Ohio.
George H. Nye	. . .	Auburn, N. Y.
William F. Nye	. . .	Fairhaven, Mass.
Dr. Fremont Nye	. . .	Westerly, R. I.
John W. Nye	. . .	Manchester, N. H.
Harold B. Nye	. . .	Cleveland, Ohio.
Harry L. Nye	. . .	Zanesville, Ohio.

Mr. Harold B. Nye of Cleveland, Ohio, in behalf of the family in Marietta, Ohio, gave a cordial invitation for the Nye Association to hold its next meeting in 1905 at Marietta, Ohio.

Mrs. Belcher moved that the invitation be accepted in the same fraternal spirit in which it was given. A rising vote was taken.

On motion of Mrs. Belcher it was voted that a telegram be sent to James H. Nye of Marietta, telling him of the action of the meeting.

The business meeting was followed by an address by Hon. David J. Nye of Elyria, Ohio, on "The Pioneers and their Descendants." He spoke as follows:—

MR. PRESIDENT AND KINDRED FRIENDS:

We have met to commemorate the two-hundred and sixty-seventh year of the settlement of this beautiful New England Village. The same blue sky forms the canopy above us; the same



waters wash its shores; and the same breezes blow over its hills and valleys, as when our ancestors came in 1637. But all else is changed. As our Mecca, we come to Sandwich from the various states and territories, to gather new inspiration, and drink again from the fountains of ancestral springs. This place seems the most appropriate for us to assemble and pay our respects to the memory of those early pioneers. Here they came and selected their homes, cleared away the forests, cultivated the land, built up the primitive industries, and left their first impress upon the new colony. We find here today the descendants of those same pioneers clustered in and about this little village. The old Nye homes have been transmitted from generation to generation, and as we visit them, we see they have been preserved and cared for by the direct descendants for all these eventful years, and they are now possessed and cherished by the pure and gentle womanly characters, who are ever ready to welcome those kindred who ask an entrance through their gates. To walk upon these streets, and step upon these thresholds is like treading upon sacred ground and in hallowed places. Is it any wonder then that we delight to return to this place, as our Mecca? The descendants of Benjamin Nye now living upon Cape Cod and in its vicinity are among the most intelligent and respected citizens in this community. They occupy some of the most important and responsible positions in Society, Church and State. And in these they have maintained the standing and character of their ancestry from the earliest to the present time. Their welcome has been most cordial and hospitable.

The other citizens who are here have imbibed the true spirit and have all been touched with the inspiring zeal of the early settlers and exhibit that hospitality and kindness which is most prevalent in New England.

It is with feelings of pride that we here assemble to review the past, contemplate the present, and look forward to the future of the Nye Family and their associates. There are three important periods in every community or country. One is the past, which is essentially history; one is the present, which is the living, acting reality; and the other is the future, which spreads out before us, unwritten and unknown.

Those who honor their ancestry show that respect which is due



from the descendants to their parentage. It is a worthy posterity which looks back with loving and devoted fidelity to those who have gone before them and given a name and fame to the later generations. We come here with that faith that the real facts and history of our ancestry are of such a character that we have reason to be proud of it, and cherish it as worthy of imitation. If we could look back to the time when the first families settled here, we would see a vast forest and wilderness, such as would make the heart of our modern civilizations hesitate to undertake the task of clearing and preparing the land for cultivation. But they, undaunted, plunged in, and turned not back till their task was accomplished. It is fortunate for our country that our forefathers first found, and settled upon, these wild New England shores. Had they first discovered the level land and fertile prairies of the West, these rough and rugged hills, somewhat unproductive soil of Cape Cod, would scarcely have attracted a new generation. But those sturdy pioneers never yielded till they had cleared away the woods, laid out and built the roads, drained the low land, and made the soil send forth its most productive fruitage.

“Where once the lords of the forest stood, grew grass  
and the golden grain.”

Our reminiscences must be partly special to our own family history, and partly general. We could not truly give the acts and deeds of our own ancestry except as they are coupled with those of other noble men and women who settled here at the same time.

In Old England, on the fourth day of May, 1620, Benjamin Nye was born. In that eventful year the Pilgrims first landed at Plymouth. While those sturdy pioneers were clearing away the trees and building homes and forming a government, *our first ancestor* was growing to manhood and learning what he could of this new country. He was preparing his mind for the future life. He was inspired by that virtuous and freedom loving desire to seek a home in the new world and endure its hardships. At the age of fifteen years he bid adieu to his native land and kindred. It was no small undertaking for a youth of that age to leave the parental roof, forfeit his rightful inheritance as the eldest son, under English laws, and cast his lot among brave and daring adventurers.

They took sail on the good ship “Abigail.” For many weary





days and weeks they were tossed upon the rough yet friendly sea. The faithful ship bore its brave and true hearted passengers with commendable caution and boldness. Whether tossed upon the waves of a turbulent ocean or riding upon its placid waters all contemplated the gravity of the situation and the stern realities that were before them. They did not cross the ocean in search of gold, nor lands to conquer, but in search of homes for themselves, their companions and their posterity. After a tiresome and anxious voyage they found the long sought for haven.

The future life of this young and adventurous spirit showed of what material he was made and has been an inspiration to seven generations.

We can not truly recite the history and character of this youth without coupling his life with that of the one who was to be his future companion. The same ship "Abigail" in which Benjamin Nye crossed the Atlantic bore Thomas Tupper and his fair daughter Katharine. It is not at all *improbable to believe* that upon that long and wearisome voyage these two young people formed an attachment which ripened into that holy love which made two hearts one. After he selected Spring Hill as his future abiding place his visits to the Tupper home were hallowed by a pure and devoted affection. These visits were personal; at least we have no account of his imitating Miles Standish by sending another to do his courting. It has been characteristic of the Nye Family ever since, that if they have a worthy and important task to perform they do it themselves.

I leave to others the details of this courtship and marriage, and we go on to find our ancestors at the little farm on Spring Hill more than two-hundred and sixty years ago, living a life as pure as the waters that turned the wheels of the mill built by his own hands.

There a family of eight children were reared under the guiding hand of an affectionate father and devoted mother. By that fireside were administered the rudiments of an education equal to any that could be acquired in those early days. Every child of that household has shown the fruits of a pure and virtuous training.

We learn of the concessions of land made by the officials to the head of this family, and the high esteem in which he was held by his fellow townsmen. Upon his farm at Spring Hill the mill was



erected, the dam built, and for many years under the supervision of our worthy ancestor the machinery ministered to the wants of all the people. True the mill was simple and primitive but it filled every need of the new and growing settlement. The same fountain that supplied the pure water to turn those wheels two-hundred and sixty years ago, furnishes the water to turn the wheels of the mill today. The flow has been perpetual and continuous for more than two and a half centuries. It has faithfully performed its service then flowed on to the great ocean beyond.

“The mill will never grind with the water that is past.”

Likewise the descendants of Benjamin Nye have multiplied and gone on to the great sea of men and women that have populated this grand country. And the flow has been as pure and constant as the waters that have come from those fountains.

If we may be permitted to judge the man by his deeds we may well say that our ancestor was a most devoted and faithful citizen. Every affection was bestowed upon wife and children and every duty faithfully performed to the public. The sons were taught the art of husbandry and good citizenship, and the daughters were educated in domestic utilities and true womanly duties.

The noble example set by this devoted sire has been truly followed by his patriotic sons for two and a quarter centuries. In war they have been brave and patriotic soldiers, and in peace true and devoted citizens.

The Puritans who settled in Sandwich and founded the community on Cape Cod were reared of gentle and virtuous parentage. They were inured to hardships and educated in the schools of adversity. Their characters were untarnished by any taint of wrong in thought or action. They bore the torch of civilization and planted here the principles of civil liberty. They founded here in the new world a government based upon the principles of justice, liberty and equality to all.

Tradition tells us that Rome's founders were nurtured by a she wolf; that the city was populated by criminals whose wives were captured by stealth and strategy from their enemies.

Our new country was founded by Christian patriots, populated by men of true manhood, whose virtuous wives were won from friends by affection and devotion.





Rome fell into decay and finally perished from the inherent wrong and impurities of her people. Our ancestors have left to us a government founded upon such principles as, if truly followed, can never perish. A "government of the people by the people and for the people."

They had not wealth to leave us, but they left us that which is far greater, honor and integrity, and the foundations of a great and good nation. The compact that was entered into by all who came upon the Mayflower was the inspiration for the present form of government which gives every citizen a voice in its institutions. The later settlers who came to Sandwich participated in and helped to carry forward the government thus founded and initiated. These pioneers formed a part of the then new colony and community. Liberty of thought and speech were among the principles which were so deeply planted in the breasts of the new comers. They left us more—they left us character. This is one of the most priceless heritages which they have transmitted to their descendants. It has been imbibed, and transmitted from generation to generation, until today there is nothing that makes us stand so high as a community and a nation as our character. There is nothing in the history of our civilization that gives us greater power. It is the individual integrity that is so deeply planted in the breasts of our people that makes us so great. Every hill and every valley is dotted with cottages and mansions of the descendants of the Puritans and pioneers.

Institutions of learning were among the establishments of the new and growing colonies. Schools and colleges sprang up in the various communities so that the youth were instructed in all the arts and sciences of those early days. These temples of learning have continued to increase and multiply till we now have more thorough colleges, universities and seminaries than they have in any other nation in the world, and the public schools furnish greater facilities for the education of the common people than all other lands. The rich and the poor, the high and the lowly have equal facilities for a common school education.

The early colonists, among other things, sought a country where they could worship God according to the dictates of their own consciences. This privilege had been denied them in the mother



country, but here they were far removed from any restraints of that character. Upon these principles churches were formed and places of worship were erected, and every one had the right to believe as his conscience dictated.

This freedom continued for a time, but after a series of years the good people fell into the error of attempting to determine what others should believe, and how they should worship. This led to the belief in witchcraft, so-called.

A few of the supposed witches paid the penalty with their lives, and the pins, needles and other evidences of their guilt are still to be seen in the old court house at Salem. A few years ago when I was visiting that historic city I went to see the old witch house. It was then used as a drug store, and after wandering through its quaint apartments I came to the conclusion that there were more evil spirits in that house at the time of my visit than there were in the days of Bridget Bishop.

This heresy soon passed away and the more liberal views prevailed till we now have a country in which church and state are entirely divorced. But this shows how a people who sought a country where they could worship according to the dictates of their own consciences, were prone to deprive others of that same privilege.

At the time of the coming of the pilgrims, and during all the early years in which they were settling up the country the inventions were few and their implements and machinery crude and simple. Then the yarn was spun, and the cloth woven by hand: now the spindles are turned and the looms run by the most delicate machinery. The grain was cut with the sickle, and threshed with the flail; now it is harvested with the reaper and threshed with machinery propelled by steam.

The vessels in which they crossed the Atlantic were at the mercy of the winds and waves, and their voyage was a long and weary one, taking weeks and even months. Now by the use of steam and modern inventions we can cross the same ocean in six days and guide our vessels with almost unerring certainty, carrying people enough on a single ship to make a small city.

A journey by land was slow and wearisome; now we can cross the entire continent from ocean to ocean in six days, riding in



palace cars, eating, sleeping and reading at our leisure, as comfortably as we can live in a modern home.

We climb the Rocky Mountains, cross the great rivers, pass through the deep and mighty cañons with more ease than our forefathers crossed the hills and level lands of Massachusetts. Our country has been bound together by bands of steel and is traversed by the iron horse.

It was a great discovery when a Boston boy drew the electric fluid from the clouds, but now we harness it to a car, ride from place to place, and through the streets of the cities, now above the surface, now beneath it.

By the use of the telegraph and cable we communicate with the old world and with the people of the islands of the sea; and with the Marconi system we can talk with our friends sailing in mid ocean.

Through the printing press, aided by the telegraph and cable, we learn of the events of foreign lands in a few hours after they transpire.

With the telephone we talk with people hundreds of miles away and recognize their very voices.

We have delved into the bowels of the earth and found gold and silver, lead and copper, coal and iron, gas and oil, which have been stored there for thousands of years, and by the inventive genius of the sons of toil, they have been brought to the surface and converted to man's use.

These are a few of the great and wonderful discoveries and inventions that have been made in recent years. The discoveries are going on around and about us every day. What the next generation and the present century will bring forth we can but little know or predict.

Could our ancestry see and know what their descendants have found and wrought they might justly say that we are worthy sons of noble sires.

The little colony of men and women that withstood the storm and settled on New England's Shores was small in numbers but in purpose great. Most of them came from Old England, but as time went on children of all the other countries came. Their blood has mingled and is flowing in our veins till we are one blood, one





kindred, and one tongue. From a few thousand our country has grown to eighty millions and we have the most enlightened government in all the world and the only *true republic* on the earth. This is the product and the fruit of the virtue, honor and integrity of our early ancestry. They set the example and their descendants have followed it.

Our country has expanded from the narrow limits of the eastern coast till it extends from ocean to ocean and from lakes to gulf. Our government has given liberty to all its inhabitants, and our people have carried freedom and civilization to the islands of the seas.

As a nation we have moved on from great to greater till we are respected and honored by all the nations of the earth. This has been brought about by the liberality and justice with which we have dealt with other nations in every crisis and in every great emergency. By our influence the western continent has been made a family of republics, and the last vestige of Spanish oppression has been driven from the western seas.

In all these great deeds and wonderful accomplishments the Puritans and their descendants have taken a foremost part. Their influence and example are in evidence everywhere. Our own kinsmen have performed their full share in every great enterprise. They need no borrowed fame to place them in company with the noblest. In every community where their lots have been cast they have borne well their parts. They have followed the westward movement, ever keeping abreast the tide of time. The family name has been carried to most of the Middle and Western States. As was said many years ago,

“Westward the star of empire takes its way.”

The descendants of Benjamin Nye have traveled east and west and helped to build up the various states and territories of the union. They have occupied some of the most worthy and important positions in every honorable walk and avenue of life. They have been successful in business and professional pursuits. They have helped to make and execute the laws. Many have served in the legislative bodies of the various states, and one has been governor of a Territory and a Senator of the United States. As lawyers they have risen to prominence and distinction, and some have presided



upon the bench with honor and ability. The gospel has been preached and mankind instructed by their ministry. The schools and colleges have been made better by their teachings.

Many have fought in defense and preservation of their country, some of whom have laid down their lives in upholding the flag.

One has charmed and instructed the world with his wit, wisdom and philosophy.

All have proved just and good citizens.

In these times of mighty deeds and great events, the country demands men of pure character and genuine honesty to administer the affairs of State. In the language of J. G. Holland,

“God give us men! A time like this demands  
Strong minds, great hearts, true faith, and ready hands;  
Men whom the lust of office does not kill;  
Men whom the spoils of office cannot buy;  
Men who possess opinions and a will;  
Men who have honor; men who will not lie;  
Men who can stand before a demagogue  
And damn his treacherous flatteries without winking.

Tall men, sun crowned who live above the fog  
In public duty and in private thinking;  
For, while the rabble with their thumb-worn creeds,  
Their large professions and their little deeds,  
Mingle in the selfish strife, lo! Freedom weeps,  
Wrong rules the land, and waiting Justice sleeps.”

The tide of empire still moves on. We are living in an age of progression and advancement. The future of our great republic depends upon those who are now living and those that are to come. Let us unite in the fervent hope that the next century will surpass in grandeur the one just closed; that the Puritan blood may continue to flow and give its gentle influence to all the race; that as our people and empire increase in numbers and extent, they may grow in goodness and in glory.

The following interesting historical paper on “The Massachusetts Nyes” was written by Miss Abbie F. Nye of Sandwich, Mass., which concluded the exercises of the morning.





Miss Nye also read a paper prepared by Mrs. Annie Nye Knowles of Fairhaven, relating to the Fairhaven branch of Nyes.

Shakespeare says :

“ There's a tide in the affairs of men  
Which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune ;  
Omitted, all the voyage of their life  
Is bound in shallows and in miseries.  
On such a full sea are we now afloat :  
And we must take the current when it serves  
Or lose our ventures.”

Sure am I that our respected ancestor, the first Benjamin himself possessed in full measure, and inculcated in his sons, the spirit of the words just quoted. Perhaps the reading of these very words may have awakened some long dormant instinct of the boy's Norse ancestry, fired his imagination already stirred by stories of the new world, and sent him forth in quest of adventure.

However that may be, many of his descendants have taken the current when it served, voyaged over many seas,—and journeyed far and wide through this broad land of ours.

To write anything like an adequate history, even of the Massachusetts branch, of a family so prone to wander, has proved a task too great for the time that could be given to it, and far beyond the limits of a single paper. Let me rather tell you about the lives of several men of the name, about which I have been able to learn, together with a few stray facts that may prove of interest.

## INTRODUCTION.

It is worthy of note that the early generations of Nyes were landowners, acquiring large tracts of marsh, upland, and woodland.

A deed recorded Oct. 21, 1736, from Daniel Wing, Sr., gives upland and salt marsh, called Pine Island, to John Nye. Another dated Sept. 14, 1698, conveys from John Dexter of Sandwich to John Nye of Sandwich, meadow and salt marsh, called the Pine Island meadow, in consideration of £101.

March 6, 1721, John Nye, Sr., deeds to John Nye, Jr., for four



score £, nineteen acres of land, purchased of Shoball Smith. These are a few among many others of similar import.

The land of Caleb, son of Benjamin 1st, has not been definitely placed. In his will he gives to his wife Elizabeth the benefit and improvement of his entire estate, real and personal, during the term of her widowhood, but indicated no boundaries of the real estate. His eldest son Timothy inherited after his mother. An inventory of the personal property amounted to £178, 2s., 1d., nearly \$900. From an item, "to his last years whale voyag in bone and oyl all att £04, 15s.," we learn that he was a *sailor* as well as a *farmer*; yet his farming must have been quite extensive, for his "oxen and cows and the rest of his neat cattle" are valued at £68, and he is credited with 34 sheep, 13 lambs, and 20 swine.

In 1805 there came from Rhode Island to Blandford, Mass., Mr. James Nye, probably son of Isaac and grandson of John, second son of Caleb 1st, who removed to Rhode Island in 1704. Though rather poor at first, together with his sons, he became the owner of a thousand acres of land. It is recorded that he was the first farmer to make cheese in that section of the country. He was considered an *excellent farmer*; at the same time he was very much of a sportsman. The country thereabouts was, at that time, sparsely settled, with more forest than cleared land, so that wild game abounded.

In evidence that the love of adventure inherent in the first Benjamin persists in the family, I quote from the town history: "It has been calculated that the family of Nyes have destroyed more noxious animals than all the rest of the town. Foxes look wild when they are on their track. We unhesitatingly pronounce them the greatest hunters in this region of country."

Mr. Nye had seven sons and four daughters who settled near him; his eldest son George had twelve children; the other sons, collectively, twelve more; so that many of our relatives in that part of Massachusetts must be his descendants.

#### STEPHEN NYE.

Stephen Nye of Sandwich was a great grandson of Benjamin 1st, his father Nathan being mentioned as the second son in the will of John Nye 1st.



Nathan married Dorothy Bryant in (April 12) 1715, and his son Stephen was born June 6th, 1720.

June 7th, 1744, he married Maria Bourne. They had a family of thirteen children, of whom Elisha, born April 24, 1745, was the eldest, and Sabra, whose date of birth is not given in the Sandwich records, was undoubtedly the youngest.

Stephen showed distinguished ability and became very prominent in the affairs of the town and the colony, particularly so in the years immediately preceding the Revolution; so closely related are the story of his life and the history of the town at this time, that to tell the *one* is practically to tell the *other*.

From 1761 he was, for eighteen years, representative for Sandwich,—a long period of honorable service.

To follow the details of his legislative career would be tedious; the enumeration of the committees on which he served and the questions on which he voted, beyond the limits of this brief sketch. It is sufficient to say that he was always the wise legislator and the stanch patriot, in those trying and critical years.

In the local history of Sandwich we realize how largely he directed and influenced his fellow townsmen. Side by side with the Hon. Nathaniel Freeman and Joseph Nye, 3d, he labored for the interests and welfare of the town, and in defence of the liberties of its people.

In 1767 (Dec. 15) a resolution was reported to the town by a committee, on which served Col. Cotton, Solomon Foster, Stephen Nye, and others, by which the people were to bind themselves "not to import or introduce certain articles of foreign growth," because the use of these "foreign superfluities tended greatly to impoverish this Province and our town."

We note in the long list of interdicted articles, gold and silver buttons, snuff, mustard, starch, pewterer's hollow ware, all kinds of millinery, and lastly, bohea and green teas—"the extravagant use of these last in the afternoon!" Plainly, afternoon teas were *then*, as *now*, in vogue.

In January, 1773, Stephen Nye, with Joseph Nye 3d and others, were appointed to frame resolutions proper for the occasion, at a town meeting called to hear the grievances of Boston, as stated in a letter from their committee.





The British Parliament in *March, 1774*, passed the Port Bill, forbidding all traffic with Boston, to punish that contumacious city for its now famous tea party.

Realizing the gravity of the situation, a "Committee of Correspondence" was formed of prominent men in the province. Stephen Nye was a member of this committee, which drew up and signed an agreement styled "A Solemn League and Covenant;" copies of this were sent broadcast, the subscribers to which agreed "to suspend all intercourse with Great Britain until their rights should be restored." (Freeman's History of Cape Cod, vol. I, page 420).

He was a member of the Provincial Congress which held its first session Oct. 17, 1774, and of which John Hancock was President, and also later of the "Committee of Safety" to furnish men from Sandwich for defence of the country. In this same year Stephen Nye was part and parcel of a bit of history not commonly recorded. Parliament had infringed upon the Charter of the Province by taking from the House of Representatives the right of choosing the Council, and had instructed the sheriffs in the different counties to *appoint* jurors, instead of allowing them to be drawn from the jury box by the Selectmen. This profoundly disturbed the great mass of the people, and led, in this part of the Province, to an unusual demonstration. After consideration by leading men a plan was adopted at a meeting in Rochester, Mass., to prevent the coming session of the Court of Common Pleas. For this purpose, they determined that an excursion should be made into Barnstable by citizens of neighboring communities, who styled themselves "the Body of the People."

Many men from the counties farther west and north met in Sandwich September 26th, and their committee at once waited on the "Committee of Correspondence" in Sandwich, to decide what should be their method of proceeding. Stephen Nye was chosen *Moderator*; and then chosen on a "Committee of the Body" to consider resolutions and regulations, and finally was appointed on the Committee of Inspection, previously chosen at the first gathering of the "Body of the People" at Rochester.

The account continues that it was moved and "Voted, That the Body of the People march from hence to Barnstable in double file, at the beat of the drum, tomorrow morning at six o'clock; that two



of the committee, to wit: Messrs. Nathaniel Freeman and Stephen Nye, ride in front, the said Freeman to be Leader, Speaker and Moderator, till we arrive at or near the Court House in Barnstable, —; the said Stephen Nye, and others to be Adjutants, to see that the ranks be properly adjusted and place those that fall in by the way in the rear." (Freeman's History of Cape Cod, vol. I).

This resolution being laid before the general committee, and by them before the people, it was adopted; and so on the following morning they took up their line of march, horse and foot, for Barnstable; and, joined by many on the way, arrived at the Court House some fifteen hundred in number. Here they took position in the yard and on the steps of the Court House, and chose Nathaniel Freeman of Sandwich, principal, leader, and speaker for the expedition, and voted that their committee should "report an order of procedure." This Committee, of which Stephen Nye was one, agreed to present an address to the Justices of the Court, and again Mr. Nye was a member of the sub-committee chosen to prepare the address, also one of a committee of three to wait on the justices and notify them that the "Body of the People" was about to present an address, and request them not to open Court until it *was* presented.

He also was of the committee of presentation. The rest of the proceedings, though highly interesting, are not pertinent to the subject.

Enough has been given to show how closely the career of the Hon. Stephen Nye was identified with that of his town and country. No important measure seems to have been adopted without his advice, no committee formed on which he did not serve with signal ability and honor.

In 1783 and in 1785, we find him still in service as delegate and committee; again in 1787 he is one of a long list of protesters against an illegal election of representatives.

He died July 6th, 1810, at the advanced age of ninety, and a grateful town might well have graven on his tomb the words of Scripture, "Well done, good and faithful servant."





## JOSEPH W. NYE, OF LYNN.

I give you now the annals of a quiet life, worthy of mention for the gentle spirit and cheery disposition that transmuted the commonplace events of daily life into the realm of poetic association.

Joseph Warren Nye was born June 24, 1816, at Salisbury Point, Mass., now called Amesbury; he was the son of Joseph Nye, and grandson of Dr. Samuel Nye of the same place, a surgeon in the Revolution. His mother was Sallie Pearson.

Of the grandfather I have been able to learn nothing beyond the fact that his first patient—whom he met in West Newbury—is said to have become his wife. The father, Joseph Nye, left two sons, Dr. James M. Nye, afterwards a physician in Lynn, Mass., and Joseph W. Nye, a child of three when his father died. The latter when a lad of sixteen drove over the road with his grandfather from Salisbury to Lynn, to learn his trade, that of a carpenter, and afterwards made his home in that city, with the exception of ten years when he lived in East Princeton, Mass.

June 1st, 1841, he married Susan Abbie Rhodes of Lynn, who still survives him. In 1891, they celebrated their golden wedding.

His life was uneventful, but his genial disposition won for him a host of friends who still cherish his memory. He was of a sensitive, poetic temperament, and says himself:

“I love to leave the haunts of men, to shun  
The strife and tumult of this changing life,  
And sweet communion hold with thee, O Nature.”

For about sixty years he contributed poems to the Lynn papers. In April, 1904, one of them reprinted one of his poems, referring to him as “our friend, and everybody’s friend.”

In 1859, his poems were published in book form, and I quote fragments from two of them that you may understand how close he was to the heart of Mother Nature. Of the ocean he says:

“Type of the Infinite!  
Thou mighty page before me spread, I see  
The tracing of that matchless pen on thee,  
Which doth unceasing write  
Unnumbered lessons for man’s highest good,  
On hill and plain, and on the leafy wood.”



In lighter vein he writes of

THE MUSICIANS OF SPRING.

These merry Springtime minstrels  
No jarring discords make—  
Are skilled in execution  
Of the finest “trill” and “shake.”

Although I love the chanting  
Of the birds among the trees,  
The swamp choir's simple melody  
Doth more my spirit please.

Then be no longer sneering  
At the humble minstrel-frog,  
Although he dwelleth in a swamp,  
And singeth in a bog.

For twenty-five years, he was a friend of Whittier, and was fond of telling anecdotes and incidents in the life of the Quaker poet. Mr. Nye died in Lynn, November, 1901.

COL. PLINY NYE.

For more than fifty years Col. Pliny Nye was a citizen of North Brookfield, Mass., the story of whose life is extremely interesting. He was born in 1791, the son of John Nye, whose father was George, third son of Ichabod (born May, 1689), one of the sons of the first Jonathan.

Col. Pliny's father John was lieutenant in the militia, and there is in possession of a relative a letter written by him from camp to Elizabeth Wetherell, whom he afterward married.

His parents dying when he was very young, Pliny was cared for by strangers, and so had few advantages of early education; but he inherited a strong mind, a strong will, and sturdy fibre of character, and well illustrated the truth of Vergil's saying, “*Possunt quia posse videntur*,” freely rendered, “They *can*, because they think they can.”

Col. Nye was a close observer of current events and a great reader; he was well versed in biography and history, especially in American history. His practical turn of mind, united with stanch



integrity, made him, early in life, a leader among men. At one time or another he filled almost every office of honor which his townspeople could bestow.

Unless illness prevented, he was never absent from town meeting, where his voice was heard in advocacy of all measures to advance the public welfare, especially those concerning the educational interests of the town; and his opinions always commanded the entire respect of his fellow citizens, and carried great influence.

He was very much of a Yankee, in that, if not a Jack-at-all-trades, he was one of *many*, and good at all he tried, for he was a tanner, a currier, a farmer, and a merchant. In consequence of carrying on these varied industries he employed many young men, who became, as was the custom of that day, members of his family during their time of service. They were truly such, for he took a vital interest in all that concerned them, advising and assisting them with fatherly kindness, thus winning their lasting affection and friendship.

As a member of the State militia, he advanced through all grades of rank to that of Colonel.

All humanitarian interests enlisted his attention and sympathy; from the first he was interested in the temperance cause, by voice and example aiding in its promotion.

In 1811 he went to South Carolina to visit his brother John, and the insight he there gained into the workings of the slave system made him an anti-slavery man long before that reform took shape. He was an earnest advocate of the movement from its inception, often encountering strong opposition, but ever defending the cause he advocated with unvarying firmness and profound appreciation of the momentous issues involved.

November 5, 1818, he married Lucy, a sister of the Hon. Bonum Nye of North Brookfield, and died October 28, 1875.

He is said to have had a good figure, but spare; to have been of a cheerful disposition, never complaining; and to have been fond of young society. We learn that he seldom wore his hat when going out and was the possessor of a fine head of hair, but slightly gray at the time of his death. It may be of interest to know that the house in which he was born, built by his grandfather George Nye, is still standing, and is in good repair; a large pleasant





house, low-walled and old-fashioned, on one of the most attractive farms in New Braintree, Mass.

This account cannot better close than with a quotation from the History of North Brookfield from which the facts given above have mainly been obtained.

“The life of Col. Nye may safely be called successful; not in the accumulating of great wealth, but in acquiring a competency of this world’s goods; in doing faithfully whatever he undertook; and in establishing and maintaining through life a character for honesty and integrity that is above all price.”

#### BONUM NYE.

Ebenezer Nye, son of Ichabod 2nd, who was grandson of Jonathan, son of Benjamin 1st, was born in Rochester, Mass., July 20, 1761, and married Lucy Woods of New Braintree, June 13, 1790. He was a soldier and pensioner of the Revolution, dying in North Brookfield in 1838.

Three daughters, Anna, Lucy, and Bethiah, and two sons, Bonum and Ebenezer, survived him.

Anna married Benjamin McClintock of Ware, in 1817, and died at Hardwick, Mass., in 1881. Lucy, as before said, married Col. Pliny Nye of North Brookfield and died in 1865. Bethiah remained single and died in North Brookfield Jan. 23, 1899, at the advanced age of over ninety-three.

The younger son, Ebenezer, (born Nov. 28, 1802) died April 9, 1873; and *his* younger daughter Sarah died four days later, leaving a son Henry, and a daughter Lucy, who married James M. Pike of North Brookfield.

But it is of Ebenezer’s elder son Bonum that we would especially speak. Born in Brookfield, Sept. 18, 1795, he remained on his father’s farm till he was of age, and had the advantage of a common school education. At the age of twenty he went for a short time to Monson Academy; then began to teach and continued this occupation during nineteen successive winters, working on his farm summers.

In 1814, he learned civil engineering of the son of Hon. Thomas Hale, and succeeded to his business. His fame as a surveyor was



widespread and he was still engaged in this business at the age of ninety-two.

He joined the state militia, and was commissioned ensign in 1823; later, as lieutenant; and as captain, in 1828; the year following, he was, by his own request, honorably discharged from service, as other responsibilities were crowding thick upon him.

In 1835, he was appointed justice of the peace, an office which he held for fifty-four years.

In connection with his business of surveying he wrote a great number of deeds; 211 in one year, and 1600 between 1869 and 1882. It is said of him that "he had made more deeds and wills, settled, and aided in settling, more estates, than any other man in North Brookfield."

He was chosen by the town as school committee, selectman, overseer of the poor, and assessor, serving for twelve or fifteen years in each capacity. He filled all these varied offices with fidelity and honor; and his services as teacher and as school committee were of the greatest value to the community.

So able and upright was he, that his reputation spread far beyond the narrow limits of the town and he was appointed by Gov. Bullock one of three commissioners to determine the boundary line between Douglas and Uxbridge. He served for seven years as county commissioner, officiating as chairman for nearly half the time, and as civil engineer for all of the time.

Capt. Nye was one of the original incorporators, and one of the trustees of the North Brookfield Savings Bank. From 1864 till 1891, he served the bank as president, secretary, and treasurer, contributing in a very large degree to its steady growth and prosperity.

No worthy public enterprise failed to receive his hearty aid and sympathy.

When the North Brookfield Railway was built in 1875, so active and able was Capt. Nye, though then eighty years old, that he was chosen president of the corporation, and so remained till he died, probably the oldest railroad president in the country, if not in the world.

When preliminary formalities had been completed, it was the President, who first vigorously broke ground for the new road;





after so doing, he turned to the crowd about him, saying "Why stand ye here all the day idle?" Today a great-grandson carefully treasures the spade wielded by his honored ancestor on that occasion.

By some who witnessed the incident an anecdote is still told with great glee, which gives evidence of Capt. Nye's *youthful* vigor, both physical and mental, at the age of eighty. A man much younger disagreed with him on some business matter, but the Captain steadily held to his point of view, till the other, vexed by such opposition, exclaimed: "Captain Nye, if it was not for your age, I would knock you down!" Without an instant's delay, the Captain pulled off his coat, crying "Never mind the age! Never mind the age!" but the other man declined the contest and victory remained with the Captain.

Active and efficient as he was in all secular affairs, he was equally so in religious matters. When he was twenty-one he joined the First Congregational Society of North Brookfield; three years later he became a member of the church, and throughout his long life, he performed his full share of the duties incumbent upon him. He taught in the Sunday School for over sixty years, a record few can parallel; and when ninety-two was still clerk of the church.

As to the influences that molded this upright Christian character, we are permitted to learn from his own records. He writes: "I was very judiciously trained by my parents, and very early received religious instruction from my mother, who told me Bible stories before I could read, making them so interesting that I used to love them. My mother was a member of the church in New Braintree and remained so till her death. I well remember my grandfather's pew there. It was very high and my seat was on a cricket, and I have no recollection of ever seeing either pulpit or minister." He adds, "I used to ride to church on horseback, in front of my father, with my mother behind him."

Capt Nye married Pamela Abbott of West Brookfield in 1820. and became the father of four children, John Abbott, Elizabeth Nichols, Mary Baker, and Martha Banister. The son died in 1880 at Cedar Rapids, Iowa. The youngest daughter, Martha, married Homer Bishop of that same city, but has always resided in North



Brookfield at her father's home, and cared for him in the later years of his life, his wife having died many years before.

In personal appearance Capt. Nye was rather slight, wiry, quick in movement, a little under medium height, of fair complexion with merry blue eyes. He had a keen appreciation of humor and liked a good joke, in common with many another descendant of Benjamin 1st.

The account of his various activities at an advanced age is almost incredible. About the time of his ninetieth birthday one of the newspapers referred to him as follows: "Bonum Nye of North Brookfield has lived under the administration of every President and is still able to run a railroad and a bank. Bonum for Nye!"

On that birthday Captain and the Honorable Bonum Nye received the congratulations of some two hundred friends and relatives, and a few days later he went West on a seven weeks' trip.

When ninety-five he gave a reception to the people of the town, who for six hours thronged the house to do him honor. Shortly after the Hayden Lodge of Masons gave him a banquet. It was an interesting fact that of the 125 members present, not one had been born at the time when 'Squire Nye—he had many titles—had joined the order, seventy-four years before. They thought him the oldest Mason then living in this country, and honored him highly for the courage and tenacity with which he stood by the principles of Masonry at the time when they were so bitterly denounced years ago.

In his ninety-sixth year this young old man went with friends on a trip to Orr's Island, Maine, of which they say "no excursion was planned, or mountain climbed, or sail taken without his presence."

His death occurred as the result of an accident. At work in his barn, he was carrying a box down stairs backward, when a misstep caused him to fall to the bottom of the flight and broke his hip. The shock was too great for one of his age to rally from, and he died Nov. 12, 1890. Grief at his death was widespread and profound.

Time fails to tell of the multitude of loving tributes that testified to the respect and honor in which this remarkable man was held.



Comment here upon such a life as that of the Hon. Bonum Nye is out of place; it speaks for itself.

[By a coincidence, this paper was read on the anniversary of Capt. Nye's birthday.]

### PELEG NYE.

But let me tell you the story of a Cape Cod boy;—not that it was unusual, save in one particular, but that it was the typical life of many a man born and cradled in the sand dunes of this weather-beaten old Cape.

What wonder, that with the blue waters of this glorious bay ever in sight, or on the other side the tossing waves of the wild Atlantic, the boys for whom the paternal acres were all too few, should turn like the Greeks of old “to the *sea*, the beautiful sea.” They drew in the breath of adventure with every salt-laden breeze that swept their nostrils. So, when a mere lad, Peleg, born in 1817, the youngest of seven children of Heman Nye, in straight descent from Peleg, grandson of the first Benjamin, went with an older brother to New Bedford, and shipped as one of the “hands before the mast” on a whaling vessel.

He was gone several years. During this first voyage, at one time the lower pintle or iron bolt on which the rudder hung, somewhat after the fashion of a door upon its hinge, gave way; this left the rudder hanging from the upper bolt, and the rudder head was rapidly knocking the deck to pieces. In this emergency it was customary for some one of the crew to be hung over from the stern of the reeling ship, and axe in hand try to cut away the swinging rudder; no safe or easy task. It fell to the lot of our young sailor to be thus swung from a rope's end and while dangling, at times in the air, at times in the water, with swift well-aimed blows, to sever the loosened rudder and so save the ship from further injury.

All his first voyages were round Cape Horn; afterward he sailed from Provincetown, and was gone but few months at a time. He met with various hardships; several times his ship was struck by lightning; once when off Cape Hatteras. Some time between 1840 and 1850, when coming down from the Grand Banks in a Provincetown whaler called the *Belle Isle*, the schooner was run down and cut in two by a mail steamer. The night was foggy, but





the sea calm; so that all of the crew on deck or the night watch, including Mr. Nye, were saved.

Only one of the crew below deck escaped, Mr. Stephen Chipman, a well-known townsman of Sandwich, lately deceased. As the schooner keeled over from the blow of the steamer, Mr. Chipman, then a boy, was rolled out of his berth and swept up the companion way by the rush of the water.

In 1863 occurred the strange experience which, so far as has been heard, was unique to Captain Nye. In March of that year, with Captain Holmes as Master and Mr. Nye as Mate, the schooner G. W. Lewis, sailed from Provincetown on a whaling cruise.

One day, when off the Cape Verde Islands, a large whale was sighted—a sperm whale, as was clear to the experienced men aboard the Lewis, for he “spouted *forward* instead of *up*, and at regular intervals.” With much rejoicing the crew made ready for the chase. The whale went down while they were drawing near, but the Captain held to his course till he reached a point near where he judged the whale would come up. Then he lowered two boats, himself steering one and Mate Nye the other.

A word of explanation about the preparation is necessary. Amidship of the boat were placed tubs in which the rope attached to the harpoon was coiled. Beside the harpoon, bombs were to be used in killing the whale. These bombs were iron cylinders filled with powder. They were fired from a brass gun, and from the shoulder like a musket, and burst inside the whale.

The boats, steering in different directions, were about a mile apart when the whale came to the surface. In them were five men besides the one in command, who steered up to the whale.

A few strokes brought Mr. Nye’s boat alongside, and the sailor in the bow threw the harpoon and made them fast. The whale at once began to sound and ran out about a hundred fathoms of the rope. He came up within thirty feet of the boat; then Mr. Nye went forward and fired a bomb,—one, and again another, into the huge creature, which immediately sounded again.

But the second shot seemed to be fatal, for he soon rose and lay over on his side, a “sick whale,” as the sailors say.

Mr. Nye himself said, that wishing to end the contest, as the sea was growing rough, he hauled up close to the whale and drove a



hand lance into him. Like a flash the whale flung his head round with a fierce snap toward the boat. His lower jaw hit her bow and broke it off, throwing Mate Nye, who was standing there, head foremost into the water and into the whale's mouth, his feet sticking out of the great jaws, which shut down on his legs just above the knees. A sperm whale's teeth are in the lower jaw, several inches apart, shutting into sockets in the upper jaw. Fortunately for Mate Nye he was like Darius Green, "somewhat long and lank and lean," so his legs fitted into two of the spaces between the teeth, though it was a *tight fit*, indeed, of which he bore the marks ever afterward. With his captive lying across his tongue, down went the whale, sinking, sinking till it seemed to the man thus horribly held that he was going to the very bottom, though, perhaps, he did not go lower than five fathoms.

While thus sinking into the depths, with rare presence of mind Mr. Nye placed his hand against the whale's head, and made desperate efforts to free himself.

It was useless, and being unable to longer keep from breathing, his lungs filled with water and he became unconscious.

Meantime the Captain's boat came up and rescued the crew of the shattered one, and waited near to see what would be the outcome. Soon they were greatly rejoiced to see the body of the mate come to the surface, soon followed by that of the dead whale. Long-continued efforts restored Mr. Nye to consciousness, but he used sometimes to say he wished they had left him alone, for the suffering, when coming to, was intense.

Surely few experiences are stranger than this; and, in speaking of it, Captain Nye said he "guessed he came about as near slipping his cable as any man ever did and yet live."

He went as captain on most of his Provincetown voyages, and retired from a seafaring life a few years after he was run down in the Belle Isle. He made his home at Hyannis, Mass., dying there eight years ago last July.

#### CAPT. EZRA NYE.

November 3, 1798, there was born in Sandwich, Ezra Nye, son of Joseph Nye who was grandson of Peleg, youngest son of John Nye, 1st. His mother, Mahala Fish, descended from Nathaniel





Fish, who came from England in the ship "Abigail" with Benjamin 1st, and who had taken land in Sandwich before its incorporation in 1639.

Eldest child of a family of eleven children, gifted with a goodly share of energy and self-reliance, the fair-haired, blue-eyed boy at the early age of eleven began his career as a sailor on a small coasting vessel, owned and commanded by Capt. Levi Gifford of Sandwich.

He rose rapidly, step by step, and was captain of the ship "Amethyst" before he was twenty-one. When twenty-five, he commanded one of the packet ships, so noted in the years preceding the advent of the steamship; even then being known as an able navigator.

He then took command of the clipper ship "Independence"; as one of her dates of sailing was March 6, she always waited for the President's message. Capt. Nye first became famous about 1835, when in this ship he sailed from Southampton to New York in fourteen days, the quickest passage that had ever been made by a sailing vessel. A large silver salver was given him by the passengers on this voyage.

He also was captain of the "Henry Clay," said to have been "one of the finest ships ever built," but resigned the command to assume that of the S. S. "Pacific" of the Collins' Line,—the first American line to ply between New York and Liverpool.

In the Pacific, Capt. Nye was the first to make the passage across the Atlantic from port to port in less than ten days, thereby adding to his own fame and making a name for the new company.

Dec. 4, 1852, when six days out from Liverpool, he succeeded in rescuing the crew of the barque "Jessie Stephens" of a rival line; which, water-logged, wrecked, and at the point of sinking, was tossed about at the mercy of a furious gale, her situation hopeless. As soon as the vessel was seen and her condition suspected, Capt. Nye steered the "Pacific" straight toward her; lowering a lifeboat, the men made heroic efforts to reach the wreck; but the sea was too high, and they were forced to return to their own ship.

But not for a moment did the Captain think of abandoning the effort to effect a rescue; for many hours he lay by, waiting for the gale to abate. This delay meant more than we can understand,



because of the intense rivalry existing between the lines that were then contending for commercial supremacy.

At last, a second attempt was made, and the lifeboat crew succeeded in bringing off in safety every one on board the sinking ship.

From an obituary notice we quote:—"Captain Nye was feted, toasted, and praised all over England and America for his conduct on this occasion, and his example held up as a brilliant one for all shipmasters."

This was not because of the attempt, we think, which any captain would have made, but because of his persistent refusal to abandon that attempt under circumstances that might well have warranted such action, and for the daring and brilliant achievement.

The highest testimonials were given him by benevolent societies in New York and Liverpool, and by the British Government; a silver trumpet was presented him by his passengers, and a chronometer watch by England's Queen.

In 1855 he resigned the command of the "Pacific" and left the sea, "continuing," says the inscription on his monument, "to give the benefit of his large experience and sound judgment to mercantile and marine institutions, and to the National Government in its hours of trial." This assistance, freely rendered to the Government, was that of examining men and vessels for the United States service.

Previous to this, in 1859, Capt. Nye went to the Pacific coast to arrange for a steam tug line through the Straits of Magellan; but the dilatory movements of Chili prevented the success of the project.

In 1826 Capt. Nye married Nancy Freeman Fessenden, daughter of William and Martha Fessenden, and for many years before his death they made their home at Clinton Place, Newark, N. J. He was a member of the Chamber of Commerce and of the Union League Club of New York.

April 17, 1866, he died of concussion of the brain, caused by being thrown from his carriage, though he lived for two weeks after the accident in full possession of his faculties.

His wife and two daughters, Mrs. Joseph Patten of Brooklyn, N. Y., and Mrs. F. Wolcott Jackson of Newark, N. J., survived



him. His younger son died in infancy ; his elder, William Fessenden Nye, was a graduate of Harvard Law School, 1847, and died April 27th, 1863, on a tugboat in San Francisco harbor. He was going to bid goodbye to some friends on a steamer. The water being low in the boiler, the boat exploded and fifty persons were killed.

Captain Nye was of medium height, somewhat stout, with a pleasant look in his eyes, and firm set mouth indicative of his strength of character.

Amid the cares of his arduous life he found time for self-culture. His stateroom table was loaded with solid reading, and among his books the Bible always held its place. He was a dutiful son, a devoted husband and father, an ardent patriot, an earnest Christian.

"A good name is better than precious ointment."

Going once with friends to call upon a lady in Marshfield, over ninety years old, she greeted me, on hearing my name, with the words: "Nye! I always wished my name were Nye, for then I would be sure of getting on in the world."

She had attended school in her girlhood at the Sandwich Academy, and formed her opinion from intimate acquaintance. From her remark, we may, perhaps, infer that the Nyes have often brought their ventures safe to port.

Such has been the case with the Fairhaven and New Bedford branch of the family, one of the most prosperous and influential of the offshoots from the main stock, descended from Jonathan, 1st, who seems to have been a very able man and to have transmitted much of his ability to his descendants.

Practically all that has been learned in reference to this line has come from Mrs. Thomas H. Knowles of Fairhaven. For several reasons she was unable to write for this occasion as requested, but with the utmost kindness has compiled and forwarded an account so full of information and so admirably expressed, it is only just she should have the credit for it. Begging her pardon for the liberty taken, I will read her account as a separate paper.





## THE FAIRHAVEN NYES.

Mrs. Knowles writes: "Captain Jonathan Nye, my grandfather's father, was probably named by his father, Capt. Obed Nye, for the latter's grandfather, Jonathan, son of Benjamin. Thomas Nye, born 1699, who married Deborah Peckham, is set down in our records as "the first Nye who came from off the Cape to settle in Fairhaven." Of him we have no further knowledge. In 1815 a sick sailor, put on shore from a passing vessel, started an epidemic of spotted fever from which there were many deaths in Fairhaven and vicinity. Of this fever, Capt. Obed Nye, son of Thomas and Deborah, and his son, Capt. Jonathan, both died in the same week. Both were well known shipmasters, were men of property and of some prominence in local affairs, and at the time of their deaths owned and occupied large farms upon the east side of the road leading from Fairhaven to Acushnet. The house occupied by Captain Obed is still standing but is not now in possession of the family. Both had large families, thirteen children in each, and their descendants are many and of good repute, including some of the most successful business men of New Bedford and Fairhaven. Among them have been two bank presidents, a president of a large manufacturing corporation, with directors in banks and other corporations.

In 1779 Capt. Obed Nye was appointed one of a "Committee of Safety" which was "empowered to furnish all the men called from the town for the defence of the Country." (That the name of Nye does not appear upon the rosters of any of the many companies sent from this neighborhood during the Revolution does not mean that they were inactive but may be because the men of the family at that early date were largely engaged in seafaring occupations and were probably serving their country in some of the many privateers which harassed the enemy so severely). Captain Jonathan Nye was a member of the 22d Mass. Regiment during the Revolution under warrant from Governor Samuel Adams. I find in the list of soldiers and sailors of the Revolution, in the library here, records of the service of Jonathan, Gideon, Thomas and Obed Nye, brothers, sons of Captain Obed Nye, born 1736, died 1815, who in 1779, was one of the "Committee of Safety" to furnish men for the defence of the country. Evidently he found some very near



home. This Gideon Nye was never married. He was an uncle of my grandfather Gideon Nye, born 1786, died 1875, and should not be confounded with him.

In 1810, William C. Nye and Simeon Nash Nye, grandsons of Capt. Obed, were members of Capt. Thomas Barstow's Company of Foot, and in 1812 to 1814 Gideon Nye, eldest son of Capt. Jonathan, unable to pass the examination for active service in the field on account of two broken ribs, served as paymaster in one of the Companies stationed along the shore, near New Bedford and Fairhaven, to resist the landing of the British from the various sloops of war sent to retaliate upon the people, on account of the many privateers fitted out in the neighborhood. His honorable discharge from this Company is still in possession of the family. At the head of the Company from Acushnet, stationed at Clark's Point in 1814, to guard New Bedford from the depredations of the sloop of war "Nimrod," was Capt. Reuben E. Swift, whose wife was Jane Nye, daughter of Capt. Obed Nye.

Gideon Nye was a merchant, a man of sterling character, much respected and trusted. He was much interested in the Webster Bank in Boston at the time of its incorporation and was a stockholder in it. He was five times a member of the Massachusetts legislature, in 1829-33-35-38 and 41. At that time the trip to Boston was made by stage coach consuming two days, but during his last term of service in 1841 the railroad had just been finished between Boston and Taunton and the journey was a little easier. His wife, Sylvia S. Hathaway, a woman of much force of character, was a descendant of John Cooke and Richard Warren, who came in the "Mayflower," of Arthur Hathaway, one of the first settlers of Old Dartmouth and of the Starbucks and Coffins of Nantucket. They died of old age in their eighty-ninth and ninety-third years, having passed the sixty-fourth anniversary of their marriage.

Their ten children all grew to manhood and womanhood and all but two married. Of their four sons, however, only one left a son to continue the name.

Henry H. Nye, (son of Clement D., the second son of Gideon and Sylvia Nye, who died in China in 1867) is now living in Denver, Col., and has three sons, Clement, Henry and Arthur, who bid fair to be a credit to their name.





Thomas S. H. Nye, third son of Gideon and Sylvia Nye, was lost at sea in China at the age of twenty-eight. He left one daughter, now the wife of Clement Nye Swift, a descendant in the sixth and seventh generations from Benjamin Nye through his father, Rhodolphus Nye Swift, and his mother, Sylvia Hathaway Nye. He is an artist, eminent in this country and in Europe, where he passed many years and was a frequent exhibitor at the Paris Salon and in England.

Benjamin Nye came to Sandwich in 1637. That same year there came from Watertown, Mass., to settle in Sandwich, William Swyft, born in Bocking, Eng., about 1590. The two must have been acquainted, perhaps, notwithstanding the difference in their ages, were friends; (addressing each other as Bill and Ben), at any rate, as time went on and their descendants multiplied, there began between them marriages and intermarriages, which have continued until the present day. A descendant in the seventh generation from William Swyft, and in the fifth generation from Benjamin Nye, through his mother, Jane Nye, daughter of Capt. Obed, Rhodolphus Nye Swift, was a worthy exponent of the sterling virtues of both families. A man of much energy and force but of retiring disposition, after two years in the South with his father, he embarked at the age of seventeen upon a whaling voyage and thereafter followed the sea for sixteen years, eight of them as master of the ship "Lancaster," in which he made two very successful voyages to the North Pacific and Japan coast. Later he engaged in the live oak business with his brothers, and the firm of Swift Brothers for years furnished the Government with the timber for its war vessels. Retiring from business in 1875, he enjoyed a well earned leisure and died of old age in 1901, in his ninety-first year. His wife, Sylvia Hathaway Nye, the eldest daughter of Gideon and Sylvia Nye, died in 1902 in her eighty-eighth year. They lived together nearly sixty-two years and are survived by two of their six children and by three grandchildren.

Edward C. H. Nye, fourth son of Gideon and Sylvia Nye, never married. He was, like all his brothers, engaged in the tea trade in China in early life and later, during the war of the Rebellion served as paymaster's clerk with his brother-in-law, Major B. B. Hammond. He died in 1885. Of the six daughters of Gideon and



Sylvia Nye three are still living. The eldest of these is in her eighty-ninth year and the youngest celebrated her golden wedding in 1902. The children of these daughters, though not bearing the name of Nye are nevertheless Nye descendants. Graduates of Harvard, Columbia and Brown, they are worthily doing their share of the work of the world as lawyers and brokers in three different states. Of note among them are two not now living, Frederick C. S. Bartlett, (son of Clara G. Nye, youngest child of Gideon and Sylvia Nye and George F. Bartlett, Collector of the Port of New Bedford) a graduate of Harvard and a lawyer of much promise, member of the firm of Crapo, Clifford & Clifford, was a member of the Massachusetts legislature from this district in 1885, serving on several important committees, and at the time of his death in 1886, at the age of thirty-three, had just been elected for a second term. His eldest son is now a cadet at the U. S. Military Academy at West Point.

Jane Nye Hammond, granddaughter of Gideon and Sylvia Nye, died in 1901. She was a sculptress of talent with a growing reputation and was well known in the art circles of Boston and Providence. She studied in Paris under Raphael Colin and Paul Bartlett and her work in portrait bas relief had been exhibited at the Paris Salon and at the World's Fair at Chicago. The eldest son of Gideon and Sylvia Nye, Gideon Nye, Jr., for over fifty years a merchant in China, of the firm of Nye, Parkin & Co., served for the last ten years of his life as American Vice Consul at Canton. A man of integrity and scholarly attainment, his long residence in China and the confidence which he enjoyed of both the Chinese and foreign population, giving him an insight into both sides of every question, he was thoroughly conversant with all matters of moment, and the many books and pamphlets from his pen, dealing with the events of his time, are of much value today, as giving the unprejudiced views of an eye witness of events which led up to the late war with China. Among the books published by him are:— "The Morning of My Life in China, 1833 to 1839." "The Rationale of the China Question, 1856-1857." "The Memorable Year of the War in China and the Mutiny in India, 1857-58." "The Coolie Question in 1856-1862." "The Gage of the Two Civilizations." "The Opium Question and the Northern Cam-





paigns." "Peking the Goal, the Sole Hope of Peace." At the time of his death he was engaged upon a work which unfortunately has never been published, called "A Retrospect of Half a Century of the Relations of China with the Western Nations, 1833 to 1887." During a visit home, from 1845 to 1850, he purchased in England and brought to this country, a large and valuable collection of paintings, which, during his residence in New York, in 1847-49, was for a long time on exhibition at the Lyceum Gallery there. There was at that time no public gallery of the great masters of painting and sculpture in the country and the principal artists of New York were most anxious that his collection should be preserved intact as the nucleus of such a gallery. Circulars on the subject, signed by Huntingdon, and the other artists, were sent to prominent business men; but sufficient interest could not be aroused, and upon Mr. Nye's return to China in 1850, the pictures were sold and dispersed. One of them is today one of the most valuable paintings at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.

Mr. Nye was a corresponding member of the American Geographical Society and also of a similar society in England. Always interested in genealogical matters, when in England he endeavored to trace the Nye descent, and gathered also numerous records of families of the name then living, but was not able to establish his own connection with any of them. He brought home a large engraving of "The Independents Asserting Liberty of Conscience in the Westminster Assembly of Divines, 1644." The picture was painted by J. R. Herbert, R. A., all the likenesses of the seventy-one persons being portraits. That of Philip Nye of Kimbolton, who is standing speaking, might have been painted from many of the name today, so thoroughly does he look like a Nye. He was probably the uncle of our ancestor Benjamin, if, as seems likely, the latter was the son of Thomas of Bellenden, Kent. An old book printed in England in 1648 is called "The Art of Gunnery, &c., by Nathanael Nye, Mathematician, Master Gunner of the City of Worcester." Another old book, "A Discourse Concerning Natural and Revealed Religion, by Stephen Nye, London, 1696," is in the catalogue of Mr. Nye's library, which at the time of its sale comprised upwards of a thousand volumes, some very rare and valuable. A few extracts from a paper published in Canton, China,





show the esteem in which Mr. Nye was held. Under the official consular seal of the United States, Charles Seymour, U. S. Consul, makes formal announcement of "the death on January 25th, 1888, at Canton, China, of Gideon Nye, Jr., Esquire, Vice Consul of the United States and a resident of China since 1833." The extract continues: "The death of this venerable foreign resident, who had for fifty-five years been identified with the best interests of the foreign community in Southern China, caused deep sorrow among foreigners and natives, who had long known him as the oldest of foreign residents in China and an amiable gentleman of varied experience, refinement, noble purpose and fine talents. The flags of the consulates, custom house and foreign ships in port, were at half mast two days in token of public esteem and sorrow. His eventful life had been prolonged by systematic and temperate habits in a debilitating climate. The remains were conducted to the Foreigners' Cemetery near Fort Macao by nearly the entire male foreign residents at Canton, in a procession of four steam launches with several house boats in tow; and thus the last sad tributes of respect were paid by a sorrowful community to an excellent and interesting gentleman, whose name will long be remembered and whose memory will warmly be cherished as a prominent character in the business and social activities of Canton and vicinity for over half a century."

In the afternoon Mr. and Mrs. James L. Wesson of Boston received the Nye Family at their beautiful summer home, "Fairview." About three hundred guests were present. Mrs. Sarah Wesson, mother of Mr. Wesson, who is eighty-six years old, received with the family. It was a very delightful occasion.

The evening session of the eighteenth was opened by Mrs. Jerome Holway, who read a paper on "The Nye Homes of Sandwich." It was full of interest and all feel greatly indebted to her for her efficient work in looking up the old homes of our family. She had placed forty-three markers on the grounds of the old Nye homes, also marked the sites of where Nye houses once stood, thus showing our guests the homes of their ances-



tors. It was through her research that an original deed, given by Benjamin 1st to his son Jonathan in 1704 was found. This deed gives to us the reliable information that our ancestor, Benjamin 1st, was not killed at Rehoboth in King Philip's War in 1676, but lived *many years after* that date.

### THE NYE HOMES IN SANDWICH.

A favorite shrub in the old days was southern wood, or lad's love, as it was called. A sprig of it was often carried to meeting and its medicinal properties were valued highly. One way of using it was as follows: "Take a quantity of southern wood and put it upon kindled coals to burn, and being made into a powder mix it with the oil of radishes and annoint a bald place on the head, and you shall see great experiences." The writer has not tried this rule, but has had great experiences in her search for the Nye homes in Sandwich. She acknowledges gratefully the help given her by our oldest residents, Mrs. Sarah Wesson, Mr. Chas. and Ezra Pope, in their memories of the past, by Mr. George H. Nye of Auburn, N. Y., who has helped her out of many a tangle, and others of the Nye family. The find of the original deed from our common ancestor, Benjamin, to his son Jonathan, handed down from father to son through seven generations to Samuel H. Nye of East Sandwich, is the crowning event of the year. Benjamin, the father of John, Ebenezer, Jonathan, Nathan, Caleb, Mercey, Mary and Benjamin, was not killed at Rehoboth in 1676, all historians to the contrary notwithstanding, for here in 1704 he arises and with all the dignity of his 84 years disposes of his property. So now let us first go to the home of this, our common ancestor. About two miles from the Town Hall in Sandwich, going east, we come to the house now owned by Abbie F. Nye, near the mill stream called Little River, where Benjamin brought his wife Katharine from her home, the Tupper House, in 1640. Here their eight children were born. John, the eldest, continued to live here, and at his death willed the homestead to his two sons, Peleg and John, on condition they should care for their mother, and never was woman more carefully provided for in a will than was this "loving wife Esther." Peleg lived on in the old home, while his brother Ebenezer, who shared





in the property, built a house a short distance east, being the one now owned by William Foster. An old room, which is older than the rest of the house, once belonged to Esq. Skiff, and was moved there by Silas Nye. When his son Paul was married it was raised by Joshua Nye to its present size. Peleg left the old place to his son Joseph, who lived here until his death, when it came to his two sons, Lemuel and Joseph, who held it undivided until Lemuel died. Each of these brothers had sons whom they named Lemuel and Joseph. Joseph, Sr., and Lemuel, Jr., divided the house in two in 1837. Joseph, Sr., moved his half to the west near the road that runs around the hill, where it now stands occupied by Misses Carrie and Annie Nye, daughters of his son Joseph. Lemuel, Jr., kept the old place building on and changing it so that now but little of the original remains except the old kitchen and the cellar, which may still be seen as our ancestor fashioned them, over 250 years ago. Just across the swift running stream, which could be crossed by a plank, lived Barnabas, son of Ebenezer from John. Here was born a son, named Barnabas. Then came six fair daughters to bless the home. Years rolled on and it became evident to the ambitious parents that there were not enough available young men in this Nye-Neighborhood to go around in their family, so they moved to Acushnet, where Nyes had settled fifty years before and here the son Alfred was born. The house is now owned by Dodge McKnight, the artist. It was owned by Heman Nye, son of Joseph, after Barnabas moved to Acushnet. Later it was sold out of the family. The stream has widened into the picturesque pond now above Vodon & Son's Glass Cutting Shop, as a large dam was built by the B. & S. Glass Co., in 1826 to increase the power as they wanted to make staves at the *old saw-mill*.

Young Barnabas, now called captain, bought a house near the road that ran to Eliza Gould Wing's Apple Grove Seminary for girls and close to Paul Wing's famous Spring Hill Boarding School for boys. In his old age, his son Franklin and his family came to live in this dear old home of which Mrs. Clara Nye Smith spoke so lovingly last year. It was torn down over fifty years ago and the timbers, weather boards and several doors were used in constructing the house owned by her and her husband Mr. S. Curtis Smith of Newton, close to the old home of her great-grandfather.



The next house east from here on the hill was built by Peter Nye, and is now owned by Susan Hoxie. South of this house is the site of a home where two sisters, Sophia and Betsey, lived in their old age. All the neighbors respected and loved them, so funds were raised and this house built that their last days might be spent amid familiar faces and scenes. After they died the house was given to a Mrs. Fagan who had worked in Spring Hill families for many years, and it was moved for her to its present position near the railroad station in Sandwich village. Go a little further along this road, which led to Benjamin Nye's Spectacle Pond property, and you will find the home of Col. John Nye. He served in the Revolution and commanded a company in the War of 1812 under Gen. Scott. His son, Capt. Thomas, lived here, and here was born Nathaniel F., now of Auburndale, who last year was so generous to the old town and started a library building fund. The house on the corner of this road, owned by William Chipman's heirs, is said to be a Nye house, and is said by some people to be Caleb's home. It has, however, been the home of many a newly married couple while their own house was being built, so it has sheltered many Nyes. The last of these was Love, a fine scholar, and whose name was just suited to her. Her husband was William Chipman, and she has a son, James Chipman, here today. Keziah, daughter of Ebenezer from Silas, married Silas Fish and lived on the east side of the road around the hill. Further down toward the shore George Nye built, whose son, John Nye, still lives here with his mother. Coming back by the spring near the mill we come to a house across the county road where Sylvia lived, the daughter of Peleg 2d, grandmother to Ida Hamblin, who now owns the place. Adjoining this property townward, where is now the Locust Grove Asylum, was the house of Peleg Nye 2nd, whose son, Bethuel, built the house on Liberty street in the village, now owned by Robert Clark. Across the road Heman Nye bought property and built his house further townward on the north side of the road. His son Heman was born here, whose two sons, Southworth and Everett, are both with us, and whose widow still lives at the old home. Now we must retrace our steps, pass through the village of Spring Hill until we come, two miles farther eastward, to another mill stream, whose





waters have carried the machinery of many mills. Here we believe Jonathan built his house. In 1704 we believe, Benjamin came here to live, for in the deed he says: "To my son Jonathan, if he will continue to support and relieve me, my now wife Katharine, and my daughter Mercey, I give all my mills, house, outhousing, goods, chattels, meadow lands and marshes, except the lands I formerly gave to my son John and are now in his possession." He and his wife died before the sister Mercy, because in 1713 Jonathan gives considerable land to his son Jonathan if he will care for "my sister Mercey who is feeble in body and mind." In 1724 the house is once more given to a son to care for his father and mother, to Joseph, Jr., clothier, as he is called in all the deeds; he also received the corn mill, the fulling mill, the pond and the stream that carries said mills, etc. We know there was at least one mill on this waterway previous to 1684, because in that year a jury was impanelled to lay out a county road from Barnstable line and to go across Benj. Nye's mill dam instead of where the highway had been, which was across what is now called the channel. There was also land in Middleboro which we have located as Lot 62 in the Sixteen Shilling Purchase, now called Purchade, and Lot No. 2 in what is now Lakeville. All of this he gave to Jonathan who is called Miller in the deeds. While we believe this house was built when Jonathan was married in 1685, we know that in the reign of Queen Anne, when a tax was laid on two story houses, a style of building prevailed known as the Salt Box, and this house was fashioned in that way for many years afterwards. This was two stories in the front, sloping to one at the back. About 1750 it was changed to its present style. The front door faced the south thus bringing a gable end to the highway at the west and was set back from the road about 20 feet. The front door swung inward on long hinges and across its top were set five square panes of glass that let in the sunlight on the pretty winding staircase. The living room, one rod square, opened on the left from the short hall or entry, and between it and the chimney, was the fine panelled partition reaching over the mantel piece and across that side of the room. A door led into the long kitchen and another into the bedroom, where the father and mother always slept. From the right of the entry opened the front room, the parlor, also one rod square, with plastered walls,





fine mouldings and panellings. From the room at the rear of this a similar panelled door led outward also. The long kitchen was always one of the most important rooms in the house. The opening of the fireplace was nine feet wide and five feet high, its sloping sides leaving room for a four-foot log at the back, and near their outer edge a place for seats, the delight of the children. Beyond the bedroom the house reached out an L for the buttery and pantry. In 1841 when the days were past that a carding machine was needed, the room where it had been was moved onto the back of the house, forming the present kitchen. The old kitchen door opened out, leading over the flat door stone to the gardens that blossomed between the house and the two big barns. Joseph Nye, Jr., clothier, carried on the fulling mill, which scoured, cleansed and thickened the woolen cloth, beating and pressing it by means of pestles or stampers. The carding machine in this mill was the first one on the Cape. It consisted of cylinders, thick set with teeth that combed, broke and cleansed the wool, carding it into great rolls. Dea. Silvanus, to whom the place came, and his son, Dea. Samuel, have worked many a night until morning carding the wool, which the rosy cheeked farmer's girl had brought on her horse's back all the way from Provincetown, that she might get home before the next nightfall. There was a grist mill and also down toward the marshes were salt works on the place at this time, and these were busy days. Helen F. Holway, a daughter of Dea. Samuel, who with her brother, Joseph, now owns the house, Sylvanus, a twin brother to Joseph, Samuel H., with sisters Mary, Lydia and Eliza, all were born in this house. Helen's son, Jerome, and his son, George, all have lived beneath this roof, which thus has sheltered eight generations of Nyes. Jonathan gave three acres on the west side of the mill-pond to his son Benjamin, and here he built his house about 1725, which is now owned by James Atkins' heirs. Going toward Barnstable on the south side of the road is a house said to have been built by Benjamin, son of John, probably about 1698, his son Benjamin who married Mary Swift, sold it in 1794 to Joseph Hall, in whose family it remained until 1866, having had but few changes in its rooms. At this time it came again into the Nye Family, when its present owner, Samuel H., returned from the Civil War, where he served in the 45th Mass. He named it Mill



Pond Farm, has made a specialty of Jersey cattle and has carried on a successful dairy business. Next to this house going east, is where Jabez, Zenas and Betsy were born. Another sister, Tempy, married Lemuel Bassett and lived in the next house, where is now the post office, which is kept by their grand-daughter, Abbie M. Holway. The house now owned by Joseph Hoxie's heirs across from Jonathan's was built by Joseph Nye, 3d, son of Joseph Nye, clothier. He was prominent during the revolution, was sent sixteen years as representative and was eighteen years a selectman of Sandwich. He gave the place to his nephew, Joseph, who lived here as did his son, who was Joseph W. Moses Nye lived down the lane, where now John Armstrong owns. All the land around Great Pond and away up to Spring Hill was owned by Nyes. We have however located but one other house, and that is the one east from the R. R. station at E. Sandwich, called for many years, the Barney Holway place, now owned by Benjamin Webber. This was owned by Thomas Nye, son of Benjamin from Jonathan, the uncle for whom he was named. Jonathan's son, Thomas, felt maker, is said to be the first Nye to leave the Cape. He went to Acushnet about 1726. Thomas 2d's children were all born here, one of whom was Levi, who became a circuit preacher of the Methodist Church. His children were born here and about 1811 he built a house on the east side of the lane, which leads from the County road to the old Plymouth road, going from Alfred Dillingham's. The house was afterwards moved and is now standing, and is the first house on the north side of the road, after passing Town Neck crossing. One of his sons, Levi, went to California in '49 and built the first frame house in Sacramento. Another son, Lemuel Bourne Nye, bought the brick house in 1815, which stood on land formerly owned by Parson Goodwin, and built by a Mr. Leonard, who made it from brick manufactured in a brickyard owned by him on Town Neck. Here his children were born, and one of them, his daughter Sarah, has lived here for many years with a dear niece, Edwin's daughter Lizzie, whose sweet and lovable disposition endeared her to everyone, and whom only last Friday they bore away amid tears and flowers to the last home, the Mother Earth in Freeman Cemetery. Two sons, Levi who with his brother William, carries on the tag





business at the mill-pond, lives three houses farther townward. Squire Joseph Nye lived at one time in the Moody house. Now we will go, if you are not weary of your trip, to Upper Shawme Lake, which is the fountain from which the Lower Lake is derived. When the town was first settled there was only a small, swift stream wending its way through a long and heavily wooded swamp, which may be located now by an occasional large stump in the bed of the lake. Near the source of this stream we believe was the home where Elisha, son of Stephen, lived. We know by tradition that Elisha, Jr., when a boy, used to have boy friends to spend the night with him, often in pear time, for the pear tree, still standing, bore delicious fruit, with its branches so near the chamber windows that the boys could easily gather what fruit they wanted. In 1794 part of the house was moved to its present position, an L to the Lemuel Pope house. While this house was being built, a Quaker preacher moved by the Spirit to go into an unfinished house and hold a religious service, thus illustrating, perhaps, the building up of human character, asked permission of Mr. Pope to hold it here. He readily consented, a large number of Friends and the neighbors came and a profitable service was held. Near the head of the Lower Lake, where now Josiah Newcomb owns, was built the Zenas Nye house, which from the picture and description we think a fine type of houses built at this time. Here were born the children of Zenas, whose lives were filled with public service. Abram, who inherited the house, wanted a new one, so moved his family into a house which stood near the pond north from the Cemetery, where is now Mr. Wesson's boat house. The house was torn down, a new foundation was laid on the same spot, carpenters were here at work when Abram was taken sick and died, leaving a large family. His daughter Sarah is still living in Sandwich, who married Leonard Wesson and lives with her son, James Wesson, in a large house named Fairview, which was built in 1880 at the top of the hill. At this time the small house was torn down, which stood near the road where Lawyer Seth Nye lived while he was having built for him the large house on the opposite corner occupied now for many years by the Braman family. Seth was a brother to Abram and he lived here, making a home for his three sisters, Mary, Excie, and Sabra. The small building near the road he



built for a law office; he built on a south room for his sisters who worked at mantua making and millinery. The house on the north side of the road, where now Wm. H. Burbank's heirs live is the site of the house built by Nathan Nye, Esq., about 1772 and here was the Post-Office and grocery store. Two houses townward, with the tall evergreen trees in front, was built by his eldest son, Col. Obed. Capt. Daniel bought a house in Sagamore in 1813, of Dr. Cushman, his son Nathan lived on there and improved and changed it; his son Walter built in 1900 a large house on adjoining property; another son of Nathan is Dr. Daniel Butler Nye, a dentist in China. One other house in Sagamore we notice, Joshua, son of Ebenezer, built in 1815 and his son, E. Bourne Nye, lives here with his family. His only son is named Joshua. Elisha Nye, Jr., lived in a house now torn down on the north side of the road by the Dillingham place. Allen Nye built a house across from Obed's and when it was new Capt. Chas. Nye, the third son of Nathan, bought it. His only son Stephen brought his wife here in 1842 where she still lives with her daughter Lizzie. This daughter married William, thus making their children, Augustus and May, doubly Nye. Another daughter of Stephen, whose birthplace was in this house, is Hannah, our efficient Secretary, who has been untiring in her efforts to make this gathering a success. Her husband is Henry Alden Belcher of Randolph, who owns a fine summer home on the hill north from the Town Hall Square. Nathan, Jr., built on the north side of the road three houses from Liberty street going east. In the centre of the village on the south side of Main street stands the house which Ezra, son of Joseph from Peleg, built. It is now owned by Dr. Talbot. The corner by the Methodist church was called Nat Nye's corner, and here Nathaniel built and his children were born here. Abram lived on in this house, while Nathaniel built farther east the house owned now by E. B. Howland. Capt. Bill Nye lived next house townward, and his son Joshua built across the street where now Frank Tinkham lives.

Coming still townward, beyond the three houses on the south side of the road, was the home of John Nye, who committed suicide, a most unusual thing in those days. There was, however, a rule of the church that the tolling of the bell be omitted when the person





had taken his own life. Now the boys in town loved Uncle John and determined he should not be slighted, so at the hour of the funeral they climbed up and tied a rope to the tongue of the bell. As the procession passed they cried, "Now let's give uncle John a good salute!" Ding dong, went the tongue, until suddenly the bell cracked—and we were not told what happened to the boys! When School street was laid out, the house now owned by James Perry was moved from near the late Watson Tobey's, by L. Bourne Nye for his mother, the widow of Levi, and it was the only house on the street for some time. Col. Obed Nye owned the land where is situated the Bay View Cemetery, and a house which stood where now the mound is erected for the unknown dead of our civil war. This house was moved to its present location on the west side of Grove street by Ansel, father of the present Nathaniel Fish. It is now owned by John C. C. Ellis. The next house where Ezra Pope now lives, is also one of the old houses in town and was occupied at one time by Thomas Nye. Wherever one sees a tangle of bouncing bet, butter and eggs and cinnamon roses, be sure that in their midst, will be found a long untrodden door stone, a fallen chimney, or a filled-in well. Here once a young man had taken a wife. The land was staked, the deed was duly drawn, signed and recorded, something like this: "Know all men by these presents that I—for the consideration of the love and affection I bear my son—hereby give, bequeath, etc., a certain tract of land, with the house and outhousing thereon, beginning at the highway near my now house, at a marked bush, running easterly to a crotched oak tree, with a stone laid in the crotch, thence south to a balm of gilead tree, thence west to a heap of stones by a poplar pole, then north to the marked bush, near the highway; to him and his heirs forever. Stately foxglove and tall canterbury bells, flowering almonds, St. Peter's wreath, lilacs, laburnums and syringas, sweet Williams, clove pinks, phlox and ten weeks' stock, zinnias and marigolds all bloomed in their season in these dear old gardens."

An exact copy of the original deed found by the writer is appended.

To all people to whome these presents shall come Benjamin Nye of the Town of Sandwich in the County of Barnstable in New





England Sendeth greeting &c. Know yee that I the said Benjamin Nye for and in consideration that Jonathan Nye my son of the same town of Sandwich hath supported and relieved me and Katharine my now wife and Mercey Nye my daughter who have not been able for some years last past to relieve and support ourselves by reason of weakness and other infirmities together with other good causes and considerations we att this time especially moving, as also on condition that he the sd Jonathan Nye his heirs executors or administrators or all or either of them, shall for the future from and after the day of the Date hereof, during the time of the naturall lives of we the sd Benjamin Nye, Katharine Nye my wife and Mercey Nye my daughter and each and every of us respectively well and in decent maner provide for support and maintain us with food raiment house room lodging and other necessarys of this life convenient for us and each of us as also to afford and allow unto each of us, a decent christian buriall when God shall take us away by death and if he or they shall also well and truly pay such just debts as I now owe to any person in some convenient time next after demand thereof, Have given granted bargained sold enfeoffed and confirmed and by these presents on the conditions aforesd, I do fully freely clearly and absolutely, give grant bargain sell alien enfeoffe and confirm unto him the sd Jonathan Nye, his heirs and assigns for ever all that my lands of all sorts both upland and meadow grounds that I have now and of right belonging to me in sd town and township of Sandwich with all my mills and appurtinances to them belonging and all dwelling houses and outhousing in or upon sd lands (only excepting what lands I formerly gave to my son John Nye and now in his possession,) and I also for the consideration and on the conditions aforesd do give grant bargain sell enfeoffe convey and confirm unto him the sd Jonathan Nye his heirs and assigns forever all my lands both upland and meadow grounds situated lying and being within the township of Middleborough in the county of Plimouth in New England aforesd together with all my goods and chattels of all sorts with all and singular the proffits privileges and appurtinances belonging or in any wise appertaining to the premises To have and to hold all that my lands and meadow grounds of all sorts lying within the township of Sandwich aforesd (only excepting as before excepted) with



my mills dwelling houses and outhousing with my lands and meadows of all sorts lying and being att Middeborough aforesd together with all my good chattels and personall estate whatsoever with the profits privileges and appurtenances to all belonging or in anywise appurtaining unto him the sd Jonathan Nye, his heirs and assigns and to the only and alone sole proper use benifitt and behoofe of him the sd Jonathan Nye my son his heirs and assigns forever allowing, to his full free and peaceable possession and seizin now being so that if there shall be no just cause or grounds of complaint hereafter to be made by myself or my sd wife or daughter for want of maintenance and necessarys aforesd to be found and allowed to us and each of us by him my sd son his heirs etc during our naturall lives and if he shall pay my sd debts so that there be no just cause of complaint there for and shall also allow to us decent christian buriall as God shall take us away by Death, that then he the sd Jonathan Nye my son, his heirs executors and assigns shall forever hereafter peaceably and quietly hold use occupy possess and enjoy all the sd given and granted premises without the lawful lett hindrance, molestation or disturbance of him sd Benjamin Nye myn heirs, executors administrators or assigns but from all such action of right us and every of us to be utterly excluded and forever debarred by these presents

In Witness whereof I have hereunto sett my hand and seale this ninth day of June Anno Domini one thousand seven hundred and foure

BENJAMIN X NYE

his mark

Sandwich on the same ninth day of June then the above named Benjamin Nye personally appeared and acknowledged the above written testament to be his act and deed.

Before me STEPHEN SKEFF

Just. of peace

Signed sealed and in  
presence of  
Wm. Bassett  
Ebenezer Taylor





William H. Rider, D. D., of Gloucester, Mass., then gave an address which was listened to with interest and was as follows:—

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, COUSINS ALL!

After this day's recital setting forth the sturdy, industrious, and accumulating habits of our ancestors, one hesitates to declare himself much of a Nye, or lay claim to the sterling character of his maternal progenitors, save in the line of descent, since in some instances it is quite too evident that we have descended from the high standard set before us.

Indeed, it is perilous even for a son to presume upon the reputation of his sire, how much more so for one of the 7th or 8th generation to hark back.

It is said a lad desirous of following his father, fitted for college and selected the Alma Mater of his sire; paternal counsel followed, "John, it pleases me greatly that you have entered my old college, do as I did, and show them that you are 'a chip of the old block'"; his mother added, "Yes John, dear, never forget whose son you are, maintain your father's reputation."

On the very day he registered the Bursar said, "Ashton? Ah! can you be the son of Jack Ashton?" "I am Mr. John Ashton's son." "Oh, yes, I see something of his same spirit." "Thank you, sir," answered John, "I hope I have my father's spirit, for I intend to do as nearly as I can the things he did." "My dear young man," replied the Bursar, "I hardly think it would be wise for you to do that, some things you can not imitate your father in doing, for new conditions will prevent you from pushing the professor of mathematics into the old pond now filled up, and as the chapel bell is rung by machinery, you can not tie any calf to the old bell rope and disturb the morning prayer"; leaving the Bursar's office John called upon a local lawyer, a class mate of his father; the lawyer expressed his joy in seeing the son of his old college chum, and for advice counseled the student to avoid the Young Ladies' Seminary and thus escape the experience which befell his father who by his deep interest in one of the lady students gave much disturbance to the principal of the Seminary and the President of the college. Without further inquiry John wrote:—



**"MY DEAR FATHER :**

From what I already know of your college life, the pushing into the pond of the professor, the tying of a calf to the chapel bell, the episode with the young lady student, I fear I can not keep up the pace you set on my present allowance; kindly forward me \$500 extra and mother shall not hear of the young lady student."

Fortunately you do not ask me to be other than an ordinary Nye, for like all Cape Codders since childhood I have been taught that to be too near or Nye hardly becomes any one.

The fact is that aside from my maternal parent and her deep sympathy with the reunion of her mother's family, I see little to recommend me, unless it be in an increasing baldness which might suggest a remote relationship to that cheerful William Nye, familiarly called "Bill."

Seriously, however, this day and this gathering is significant of the worth of the emigrant; the occasion charges us with the political importance of those stalwart men and women who amid the most limited conditions out of their grand selfhood forged and welded the elements of our New England civilization: in brief such days and such family gatherings tell us that beyond the prowess of our armies, the persuasion of our wealth, the skill of our educational strength, or the statesmanship of our leaders, our grand Republic has advanced to the forefront of nations by reason of such large souls as the emigrant Benjamin Nye and his most womanly wife Katherine Tupper.

One such man, one such woman is worth far more than laws or measures; one such man, one such woman explain why this Old County produced such a fiery spirit as that historic soul who rocked the cradle of liberty and awoke freedom.

It has ever been the industrious, frugal, God-fearing emigrant who has shaped the destiny of our Country. As we honor the emigrant of 1637 we cannot be too careful whom we welcome as emigrants in 1904, or the freedom of America may descend into misrule—and license, the passion of decay.

The one word for today is emulate; not simply the story telling of what some Nye has done, the mere work of historical research, the cutting in larger letters the names of our honored dead: to do





adequate honor to our forebears we must cultivate the religious temper, the self-reliance, the intelligent purpose of those whose blood flows in us, or the recital of their deeds reflects on our degenerate conduct. That emulation begins at home, is domestic and near by.

In the pleasure of meeting my cousins, most of you for the first time, there comes the added pleasure from your selection of the Continental colors. What could better express that home loyalty, that local pride, that standing if need be alone with God for the right and for one's own?

As the emigrant hewed and shaped his home, built his hearth, so over that hearth he hung his musket to fight under God for his home, his colony, his kindred people. Never has there been a grander patriotism, beside which the greed of power, the desire for territory, the ambition of war, sinks into barbaric selfishness.

Let us never cease to uncover our heads when the veterans of our wars pass by, the men who rewrote the Constitution and declared that America shall be forever the home of the free; yet without any diminution of their deserved honor let us all the more thank God for those early Americans who made our country worth fighting for, worth dying for. Ah! never can we forget the men and women who shaped the Commonwealth we so dearly love.

You know in these days it has become fashionable to pay tribute to foreign saints. St. George, St. Michael, St. Patrick—all good saints; still we want room to join our grateful praise to St. Yankee, to dress him in buff and blue, to celebrate the American emigrant's saint who has with heroic spirit blessed of God, cut a way open to the sturdy sons of all the world.

A few years back a young man came from school to pay a son's tribute to his honored parent dead; on being asked what he would do, he replied, "My father had a strong desire to develop this farm and make it one of the best in all Vermont. I purpose to carry out my father's plan, and on these old acres to win character, to show myself a true son of a true man." Back of such rare will is the old patriotism which peopled this Cape with grand men and as grand women.

I know we were just a little proud this morning when in the admirable address we were told how many bearing the family name





had become statesmen, or lawyers, physicians, educators, not to mention clergymen, since nearly everybody can preach, but the distinction of the Nye family is not there. Not in the number of eminent men, but in the number of those large souls who found the art of arts, the art of living well, is Benjamin Nye and his wife Katherine adequately honored.

With commendable pride we have just listened to the story of the houses and lands owned by the emigrants' children; it is the indomitable will, the staunch virtue, the upright force of being which gave to such dwellings the atmosphere of a Nye home, which sent West and South an influence which belongs to the eternal, to which we are debtors with grateful hearts.

So smile as we may, still must we admire that homely creation of Kate Douglas Wiggin, Mrs. Ruggles, when she exclaims: "Now I've of'en told ye what kind of a family the McGrills was. I've got some reasons to be proud: your uncle is on the po-lice force o' New York City,—and I can't have my children fetched up common. Now you can go, an' whatever yer do, don't forget yer mother was a McGill."

Gratefully, humbly we have come together lest we forget that we are Nyes, to carry away like coals from the ancestral hearth to kindle the fires in our homes, inherited tendencies which may reproduce somewhat of the grand characters of Benjamin Nye and Katherine Tupper.

The evening programme closed with a musicale, which was finely rendered and greatly enjoyed by the large audience present.

Pianist—Miss Martha Allen of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Soloists—Mrs. Grace Bonner Williams, Taunton, Mass.

Mr. Fred Marston, Barytone, Boston, Mass.

Mrs. Fred Marston, Accompanist, Boston.

The last business meeting of the family was held Friday morning at 10 o'clock.

After singing a hymn, the President called for the reports of the Committees.



The following report was read by Harold B. Nye, chairman of the nominating committee.

It is recommended that the following persons be elected as officers of the Association for this year:—

George H. Nye, Auburn, N. Y., President.  
Hon. David J. Nye, Elyria, Ohio, Vice-President.  
Mrs. S. Curtis Smith, Newton, Mass., Secretary.  
Mrs. Annie Nye Smith, Roxbury, Mass., Treasurer.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

William L. Nye, Sandwich, Mass., Chairman.  
Charles H. Nye, Hyannis, Mass.  
William F. Nye, Fairhaven, Mass.  
Everett I. Nye, Wellfleet, Mass.  
James L. Wesson, Boston, Mass.  
Mrs. Horace K. Nye, Fairhaven, Mass.  
James W. Nye, Marietta, Ohio.  
Mrs. Rowena Nye Cook, Chillicothe, Ohio.  
Harold B. Nye, Cleveland, Ohio.

The Secretary cast one ballot for the officers nominated, and they were elected.

Mrs. Brush of Chicago, Ill., presented to the Association two hundred copies of the song, "Owen." Mrs. Belcher moved that a vote of thanks be extended to Mrs. Brush. This motion was carried.

The following resolutions were read by Mrs. S. Curtis Smith. They were accepted and it was voted to place them on record. This motion was made by Mrs. Belcher.

The Nye Family of America, assembled in convention at Sandwich, Mass., Aug. 19th, desiring to express their sympathy to those of their kindred who have been called to mourn the loss of dear ones, during the last year, passed the following Resolutions:





*Whereas*, in His inscrutable dealings, Our Heavenly Father has removed from the activities of life Rev. Ezra Nye Smith of Falmouth, who took an active part a year ago at our first reunion, and

*Whereas*, one of our most active and efficient members, Mr. Wm. F. Nye, of Fairhaven, has been bereft of his beloved companion, and

*Whereas*, Mrs. Nannie Nye Jackson of Newark, N. J., mourns the loss of her honored husband,

*Whereas*, Mr. Joshua Nye of Boston, has passed away at an advanced age,

*Whereas*, Mrs. Lizzie Wheeler Nye, the organist of North Falmouth church for forty years, has departed this life,

*Whereas*, we miss the presence of Miss Lizzie A. Nye of Sandwich, who was with us at each meeting last year,

*Be it Resolved*, that we tender our sincere sympathy to each and all of our friends, who have been so deeply afflicted by these deaths, and we pray that Our Heavenly Father in His infinite love and mercy will enrich their lives with His consolation and sustaining grace.

DR. JANE GILLIFORD,

MRS. S. CURTIS SMITH,

*Committee on Resolutions.*

The following report of the Committee on Publication was read by Harold B. Nye.

We recommend that the Nye Family of America Association hereby accepts, with thanks, the donation tendered by Mr. George H. Nye of Auburn, N. Y., and hereby extends its sincere appreciation of the great value of this gift. We recognize the great amount of time and labor which Mr. Nye has expended in collecting and preparing such a vast amount of valuable information. We further recommend that a committee of three be appointed to receive and care for the manuscript, arrange for its publication and sale by subscription under the auspices of the Nye Family of America Association. We recommend that this committee be constituted as follows ;



George H. Nye, Auburn, N. Y., chairman.

Hon. David J. Nye, Elyria, Ohio.

Henry A. Belcher, Randolph, Mass.

This report was accepted.

On motion of George H. Nye, Mrs. Henry A. Belcher was made a committee of one, with power to enlarge her committee, to carry out the suggestion made in her report of building a Nye Memorial. Mrs. Belcher accepted the position. She said the idea of a memorial was suggested to her by letters received from the family in different parts of the country, especially from the West, asking if we had ever thought of doing so. She thought if such a memorial was to be erected it should be right here in Sandwich, as it was here that our ancestor, Benjamin Nye, took root, and here is the tree. Wherever the Nyes may have settled later, they took with them only a branch from the tree.

She thought that the five hundred dollars given to the town last year by Mr. Nathaniel Nye of Auburndale, as a nucleus for a Public Library, might be used for this purpose. She also stated that she already had received a gift of one thousand dollars from a member of the association.

The following telegram was read by the Secretary:

MARIETTA, OHIO, Aug. 19, 1904.

MRS. HENRY A. BELCHER, Sandwich, Mass.:

Telegram received. Cordial salutations. Latch string will be out and hang low.

JAMES W. NYE.

A telegram of greetings was read from Mrs. Hershel Bartlett of St. Joseph, Mo.

The following letter was read by the Secretary:



HYANNIS, Aug. 19, 1904.

TO THE MANY FRIENDS OF THE NYE ASSOCIATION CONVENED IN SANDWICH:

Your telegram received. Accept my appreciation of your kindly expression of interest. I trust you are enjoying a pleasant and satisfactory reunion, and only wish my health would permit me to be present on this interesting occasion in person, as I am daily in thought.

Yours most sincerely,

CHARLES H. NYE.

Mr. George H. Nye moved that three hundred copies of the proceedings of the reunion of 1904 be printed, to be sold at a price to be fixed hereafter. This was carried.

Mrs. Belcher suggested that some arrangement be made for the printing of the book. It was not done last year and she had to attend to it.

It was then moved and carried that the Secretary and Mrs. Henry A. Belcher constitute a committee to publish the book.

Dr. Fremont Nye moved a vote of thanks be extended for the use of the church for our meetings.

The following Resolutions were read by Hon. David J. Nye:

*Whereas*, the success of the reunions of the Nye Family for the years 1903 and 1904 have been largely due to the untiring and efficient work of our President, William L. Nye, and our Secretary, Mrs. Henry A. Belcher, and

*Whereas*, they are, at their own request, to retire from the duties of said offices, therefore be it

*Resolved*, that this Association extend to them its sincere and heartfelt thanks for their devoted services to the cause of reuniting the members of the Nye Family of America.

Mr. William L. Nye responded to the resolutions.

After the business meeting a finely written paper was read by Mrs. Elisha E. Rogers of Norwich, Conn., on the Rhode Island Nyes.





The first record of a Nye in Rhode Island is the marriage of John Nye, son of Caleb, in 1710, to Sarah Cook.

Several years ago, the desire possessed me to know something of my ancestors. Many times since then, have I deplored the lack of interest which led me to neglect the sources of information which had previously been available in the persons of my grandparents and aged aunts. Doubtless many of you have experienced a similar feeling of regret, and like myself, have searched here and there, gathering slowly and with much difficulty, family history which would have been freely and gladly given. My search commenced with my great-grandfather, but beyond the fact that he lived and died in Exeter, R. I., the family could tell little.

Obviously, the first thing to do, was to visit Exeter. Pine Hill, where the records are kept, is equally distant ten miles from anywheres, anywheres in this instance being Wickford Junction on the east, and Beach Pond on the west.

At Pine Hill, the road connecting these two places, is crossed by the old turnpike between Providence and Hartford.

Along this turnpike we drove for a long distance through what John Nye in his rate list for 1767, aptly describes as "poor shrub land." At last we reached the town hall and the records we sought; from these records, we learned that the first Nye in Exeter was "John Nye, late of Richmond," who bought land in Exeter, on 19 May, 1753; from that date, the record of his family was nearly complete, but there was no clue to his parentage or marriage. Further efforts in that direction being unsuccessful, it became necessary to commence the search from the other end of the line. The earliest record of a Nye in Rhode Island is the marriage on October 26, 1710, of John Nye of Sandwich, Mass., to Sarah Cook of King's Towne. A search of the Kingston records revealed no other trace of him.

What became of him? Did he return to Sandwich with his bride or did he remain in Rhode Island and become the progenitor of the Nyes who began to appear on the records about 1752?

For some time, this was a mystery; finally, as "all things come to him who will but wait," in 1902 the "Civil and Military List of Rhode Island" was published; on this list, the name of John Nye



was enrolled as an officer in the Second Company of Westerly Militia, from 1719 to May, 1723. Here then was a clue.

A visit to the Westerly records was very successful, for these records showed that John Nye bought and sold land there, and that his estate was probated in Westerly, but no trace of any children. Now I was certain that this John Nye was father to the John Nye of Exeter, but recalling that little clause in the application papers of some of the societies to the effect that "family tradition, unsupported by evidence not accepted," I decided to continue my work. At this point, Mr. Robert Thompson came to my assistance with the information that papers were in existence, stating that John Nye had four sons, Isaac, Caleb, John and George, who with the exception of George, were living in Rhode Island in 1776. The census of Rhode Island, taken in 1774, located these brothers, Isaac in Charlestown, Caleb in Hopkinton, and John in Exeter, so my line was complete.

The variation in the spelling of the name of Nye has occasioned some question as to whether there were not distinct families. The old records all show, more or less, this variation in the orthography of names, a long name having a correspondingly long list of changes; although it *is* rather surprising to find even a name like Cheesebrough, spelled in fourteen different ways. The name of Nye does not, at first glance, appear susceptible to much change; on the old records, it is written N-y-e, or occasionally N-i-e; on the Rhode Island records, it is generally written N-e-y; but in an old record at Westerly, it masquerades as N-i-g-h.

In trying to establish my own line, I necessarily collected many items concerning other families of the name, although not so many as I might have done, if I had expected at that time, to use them. Lately, however, I have written to descendants of the brothers mentioned above, and in most cases, have received willing and satisfactory replies. To those who have thus assisted, I wish to express my sincere thanks.

Thus, little by little, has been built up this record of John Nye of Rhode Island and his descendants; the record is still far from complete; many authorities and local records remain to be consulted, but it is hoped that some among you who are looking for a missing link, may find it among these notes. Unless it is otherwise stated, the places mentioned are all in Rhode Island.





## JOHN NYE OF WESTERLY, R. I.

Caleb<sup>2</sup> Nye, son of Benjamin<sup>1</sup> Nye, the emigrant, and Katharine Tupper, his wife, was born at Sandwich, Mass., and died there about 1704; he married Elizabeth Wood (or Atwood) daughter of John Wood (or Atwood) of Plymouth, Mass. They had six children, three daughters and three sons; of the sons, Timothy married Mary Freeman and remained in Sandwich; Ebenezer settled in Tolland, Conn., and John settled in Rhode Island, and became the progenitor of the Nyes of Rhode Island. The earliest record of him, is his marriage, on Oct. 26, 1710, to Sarah Cook of King's Towne.

On April 26, 1715, he bought 123 acres of land in Westerly, of Israel Lewis for £245, with all the housing, etc. Israel Lewis had purchased this land on Sept. 28, 1709, it being a portion of the vacant lands. John Nye sold the land, Feb. 7, 1717-18, for £262, to John Hill of Westerly, who was one of the witnesses to the first deed, and who was afterwards known as Captain Hill.

That this John Nye was the identical John Nye who married Sarah Cook is proved by the deed of sale, in which she is called "Sarah wife to the aforesaid John Nye."

The boundaries of his land were as follows: "southerly, partly by William Davoll's land, and partly by the now country road; westerly, by Ninnecraft's land; northerly, by the land reserved by the committee of Rhode Island for ye Government; easterly by an highway as set forth by John Mumford, surveyor."

"Westerly by Ninnecraft's land; northerly by the land reserved by the committee!" What thoughts those boundaries suggest, of a time when Indian chiefs were our next door neighbors, and when there was land enough (or people were so scarce) that the government could reserve land in "Little Rhody" for its own use. The old records tell many an interesting story, if they are only read aright.

The southern boundary of John Nye's land was "partly by William Davoll's land." His deed says that William Davoll bought 125 acres of land in 1702, from "Ninnecraft,—alias Wayaconshat, Indian Native and Chief Sachem of the Narragansett Country or King's Province so called," said land, "lying and being by a pond



called Pasquessett Pond in Westerly, beginning at a pine tree standing by said pond."

It must be remembered that the Narragansett Country or King's Province, comprised what is now Washington County, and that Westerly then included all that part of the county which is now divided into the towns of Westerly, Charlestown, Richmond and Hopkinton. Pasquessett Pond lies in the northeastern part of Charlestown; as William Davoll's land was the southern boundary of John Nye's land, John Nye's farm must have been situated not far north of Pasquessett Pond, in the northeastern corner of Charlestown. I found no record of the purchase of another place, but he still lived in Westerly.

Until the name in the form of N-i-g-h came to my attention on the Westerly records, it had not occurred to me to look for such a name in any index.

Subsequently I found the name so spelled in the "Diary of Joshua Hempstead of New London"; under date of June 1, 1718, he says: "I went to Narrhagansett to get my one Eyd horse that John Morgan sold. I lodged at Hills, June 2, I came home and brought ye horse home. I left £4 with John Nigh Security for the Horse till I Return him, and am to give him 6s or 7s for his hire."

In 1719, he was appointed ensign in the 2nd Co. of Westerly militia, which rank he held till May, 1722, when he was advanced to lieutenant.

The last printed record of him, is his name on the rolls of this company, May, 1723, as Lieutenant John Nye.

He died probably late in the summer of 1723, for on October seventh, of that year, administration on his estate was granted to his widow Sarah Nye. On the twentieth of October, an inventory of the estate was taken by Christopher Champlain and Thomas Stanton; this inventory enumerates among other things, "corn and beans, growing, with young rye;" (it was this "young rye" which suggested the idea that John Nye either kept a hired man, or that he did not die till September,) "eight cows," "four calves," "four oxen," and other stock, house furnishings, books, clothes, two bonds on Captain Hill, who had bought the farm, also notes or bonds on William Hardy, William Wilkinson, Peter Kinyon, William Champlin, Samuel Perry and William Hern; the total





amount of the inventory being £453-7-4; there is no *land* listed in this inventory.

On the 21 Oct., 1723, the town council of Westerly "fully impowred Mrs. Sarah Nye, widow to the late deceased, Lieut. John Nye of Westerly, R. I., to administer upon all and singular, the Estate, Goods, Chattels and Credits of her deceased husband, Lieut. John Nye."

The final settlement of the estate, I was unable to find on the Westerly records; the settlement was probably deferred till the children attained their majority, which was nearly twenty years after. As Charlestown was set off from Westerly in 1738, the division of the estate may be on the Charlestown records.

The town clerk there has disregarded all questions as to where the records are kept or when they can be consulted.

It is said that the widow, Sarah Nye, married again and that the children were sent to live with relatives.

Before taking up the children of John Nye, let us look for a moment at the ancestry of Sarah Cook, his wife.

Sarah Cook was the daughter of George Cook and Sarah<sup>2</sup> Place, and granddaughter of Enoch<sup>1</sup> and Sarah (—) Place.

This Enoch Place was born about 1631; in 1657, he was in Dorchester, Mass., where he married Sarah, her surname not given; he then removed to the Narragansett Country, where his name appears on the earliest list of freemen, July 3, 1663; in 1671, he was an inhabitant of Pettihamscutt. The Pettihamscott Purchase was a tract of land in South Kingston, running from the Pier on the east, due west to Charleston, along the south side of Worden's Pond. (We have seen that John and Sarah Nye settled in the adjoining town of Charlestown, and so were not far from their relatives). Enoch<sup>1</sup> Place's will, dated 31 May, 1695, proved 11 Sept., 1695, mentions his wife, Sarah, four sons, and his daughter, Sarah Cook.

There is no record, as far as I know, of the marriage of George Cook and Sarah Place, but this marriage took place before the 31st of May, 1695; his name appears as a freeman of Kingston, on Dec. 21, 1696. (Kingston, it should be remembered, was not divided into North and South Kingston, till 1722). It was not usual for a man to be made a freeman immediately upon attaining his majority;





from this fact and from his marriage, his birth must have occurred before 1674.

Who was this George Cook? It has been said that he was a descendant of Francis Cooke of the Mayflower.

I should be much gratified to see this assertion proved, as I could find no evidence to support the statement.

Francis<sup>1</sup> Cooke of the Mayflower left only two sons, John<sup>2</sup> and Jacob<sup>2</sup>; John<sup>2</sup> mentions no sons in his will; Jacob<sup>2</sup> had three sons, Caleb<sup>3</sup>, Jacob<sup>3</sup> and Francis<sup>3</sup>; of these, Francis<sup>3</sup> died young, Jacob<sup>3</sup> did not marry till 1681, while Caleb<sup>3</sup> and Jane Cooke had no son by the name of George. Mr. Bowman, editor of the Mayflower Descendant, does not give Josiah Cooke a place among the children of Francis<sup>1</sup> Cooke; but Josiah Cooke had no son George.

On the other hand, Thomas<sup>1</sup> Cook of Portsmouth, R. I., had a son George<sup>2</sup> and a grandson, George<sup>3</sup>, the latter with a sister Phebe, which name is repeated in the children of George<sup>3</sup> and Sarah (Place) Cook. The evidence points strongly to our George<sup>3</sup> Cook as the son of Captain Thomas<sup>2</sup> and Mary (Havens) Cook, and grandson of Thomas<sup>1</sup> Cook of Portsmouth.

The only point against this, is the statement in Austin's Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island, that George<sup>3</sup> Cook was in Monmouth, N. J., in 1699. But he may have returned, or it may have been the elder George<sup>2</sup> who in the will of Thomas<sup>1</sup>, his father, is left "5s if he come to demand it."

George<sup>3</sup> Cook died, probably early in 1704, in Kingston, for on the fifteenth of February, 1703-4, administration on his estate was granted to his widow Sarah Cook, who married on June 19, 1705, Daniel Maccoone, son of John Maccoone of Westerly, by whom she had three daughters, Thankful, Hannah and Abigail.

Sarah (Place) (Cook) Maccoone died in South Kingston, where on 12 Jan. 1747, her daughter, Thankful Williams, widow, was appointed administratrix of her estate. A search of the South Kingston records would undoubtedly throw much light on the subject of Sarah Nye. If she were then living, her name and perhaps, her place of residence would be given in the settlement of her mother's estate. George<sup>3</sup> and Sarah Cook had two children; on 11 Feb. 1706, Daniel Maccoone gave bonds to pay the two daughters of his wife by her former husband, £114-6s each at age,



viz. Sarah<sup>4</sup> and Phebe<sup>4</sup> Cook. Phebe<sup>4</sup> Cook, it is said, died at the age of nineteen years; while Sarah, who was not of age in 1706, married, 26 Oct. 1710, John<sup>3</sup> Nye. This brings us to the children of John<sup>3</sup> and Sarah (Cook) Nye.

In a paper written by Col. Ichabod<sup>5</sup> Nye, is the following statement. "John<sup>3</sup> Nye, my grandfather, emigrated from Massachusetts and settled in Rhode Island; he had four sons by the following names, John<sup>4</sup>, Isaac<sup>4</sup>, Caleb<sup>4</sup> and George<sup>4</sup>; he had one daughter, I know not but more. I and my sister Mercy visited them in the fall of 1776, and saw them all in the state of Rhode Island; my aunt's name was Hingham at that time, her christian name I never knew. My father, George Nye, settled in Tolland, Conn."

So the children of John<sup>3</sup> and Sarah Nye were, John<sup>4</sup>, Isaac<sup>4</sup>, George<sup>4</sup>, Caleb<sup>4</sup>, and a daughter.

Of this daughter who married a Hingham, I have no record: The names of James and John Highams appear, 3 June 1709, on the list of the purchasers of Swamptown in South Kingston; it may have been this family into which she married.

George<sup>4</sup> Nye, was born Jan. 7, 1717, at Westerly; two years after his father's death, he went to Tolland, Conn., to live with his uncle Ebenezer<sup>3</sup> Nye; he married there, the widow Thankful (Hinckley) Hatch, daughter of Ichabod Hinckley, and died Dec. 1, 1779; he had nine children, of whom Ebenezer and Ichabod went to Marietta, Ohio, and became the heads of that branch; while George and Jonathan removed to Vermont, where they left descendants.

For various reasons, I have placed Isaac<sup>4</sup> as the oldest son of John<sup>3</sup> and Sarah Nye; in the settlement of the estate of William Hern of Westerly, in 1760, there is an item, "due to Isaac Nye, £145" on two notes; in the census of 1774, he appears as "Isaac Nye" of Charlestown, with a family of six.

He was living in the fall of 1776, at which time he was visited by his nephew, Col. Ichabod<sup>5</sup> Nye; his wife's name I do not know, but he had children of whom we have the names of Stephen<sup>5</sup>, George<sup>5</sup>, Mary<sup>5</sup> and James<sup>5</sup>, who married Sarah Clarke, 1802, and had eleven children, of whom George married Judith Clarke and went to Bl. George married, 6 Sept. 1767, Mercy Kenyon of Richmond, daughter of Samuel Kenyon; in 1770, he bought land





in Richmond of Edwin Boss; he had five children, Hannah<sup>6</sup>, Samuel<sup>6</sup>, George<sup>6</sup>, Thurston<sup>6</sup>, and Mercy<sup>6</sup>. Mercy<sup>6</sup>, the youngest child, was born in March, 1777, and in October of that year, the death of George Nye is recorded on the books of the Second Baptist Church of Richmond. His son George, born 1774, lived in Richmond and had six children.

Mary<sup>5</sup> Nye, daughter of Isaac<sup>4</sup>, married 6 Apr. 1768, John Kenyon of Richmond, son of David Kenyon.

Stephen<sup>5</sup> Nye, son of Isaac<sup>4</sup>, had in 1774, a family of seven. His children were Samuel<sup>6</sup>, Joshua<sup>6</sup>, Benjamin<sup>6</sup>, John<sup>6</sup>, William<sup>6</sup>, and perhaps others.

Samuel<sup>6</sup> Nye married in 1801, Sally Saunders of Westerly, daughter of Joseph and Lydia Saunders, they had three children, all born at Charlestown, viz.: Lydia<sup>7</sup> Ann, who married a Stanton, and died at Newport; Frances<sup>7</sup>, who married a Babcock, and died at Westerly; and Samuel<sup>7</sup> Russell Nye, who married 1st Eliza Chase, daughter of Maxson and Mary Chase; he married 2nd Sarah Chase. He had four children by Eliza, all born at Westerly; they were Lydia<sup>8</sup>, Samuel<sup>8</sup>, John<sup>8</sup>, and George<sup>8</sup> F. Nye, who married Lora Chase, and lives at Avondale. His son George<sup>9</sup> Maurice Nye, kindly assisted in collecting data for this line.

William<sup>6</sup> Nye, son of Stephen<sup>5</sup>, was probably the William Nye, born 1788, who married Abigail Hazard, and had son John<sup>7</sup> Hazard Nye, born Apr. 18, 1822, at Voluntown, Ct. John<sup>7</sup> Hazard Nye was the father of John Marshall Nye, who was one of the most prominent teachers in the Pawtuxet valley.

John<sup>6</sup> Nye, son of Stephen<sup>5</sup>, was born in Charlestown, and married Sarah Tucker of Tuckerstown; they had nine children, viz.: Lucy<sup>7</sup>, Amy<sup>7</sup>, Hannah<sup>7</sup>, Nathan<sup>7</sup>, George<sup>7</sup>, Sarah<sup>7</sup>, Stephen<sup>7</sup> F., Jonathan<sup>7</sup>, and Benjamin<sup>7</sup>. Of these, Lucy<sup>7</sup>, the oldest child, married Theodore Crandall, and died at Westerly.

Sarah<sup>7</sup> married 1st Charles Bowen, 2nd Dr. William Cook. Amy<sup>7</sup> and Hannah<sup>7</sup> died young. Jonathan had a son Jonathan, who married Hannah Jackways, and was killed in the Civil War.

Stephen<sup>7</sup> Franklin Nye, son of John<sup>6</sup> and Sarah (Tucker) Nye, married Prudence Howard of Vermont, and had nine children.

1st. Stephen<sup>8</sup> Franklin, who was born 1 May 1816, at Charles-



town, married Elizabeth Wheeler, daughter of Isaac and Olive (Burdick) Wheeler, died May, 1883, at North Stonington, Conn.

2nd. Prudence<sup>8</sup>, who married 1st Dr. Merrill, she married again but I have no further record of her.

3rd. Benjamin Howard Nye who married four times.

4th. John, who died in the Civil War, unmarried.

5th. Denison Nye.

6th. Oliver Nye, who had a son Oliver, who lives in West Georgia, Vt.

7th. Harriet E. Nye, who married George Howard, of Milton, Vt.

8th. Fannie Nye, who married John Kirby, of Providence, R. I.

9th. Sarah M. Nye, who married James Farnell, of Halifax.

For a record of the descendants of Stephen F. and Prudence (Howard) Nye, I am indebted to Mrs. Elisha M. Hotchkiss, his granddaughter, who lives at Norwich, Conn.

Benjamin<sup>7</sup>, the youngest child of John<sup>6</sup> and Sarah (Tucker) Nye, was born 2 Apr. 1817, at Charlestown, and married 11 Oct. 1840, Elizabeth P. Champlin, daughter of Joseph and Mary (Sheldon) Champlin of South Kingston. In 1865, Deacon Benjamin Nye moved from South Kingston to Lebanon, Conn., where he died 29 March 1892. Dea. Benjamin and Elizabeth (Champlin) Nye had eight children: Emily, George, who lives in Exeter; Sarah E. who married Judson Gager, of Lebanon, Conn., and who furnished the data on this branch of the family; Tyler C. who lives at Coventry, R. I.; Benjamin Franklin, who lives at Lebanon, Conn.; William, Lizzie, who married Charles S. Briggs of Lebanon; and Annie.

Of the birth and death of John<sup>4</sup> Nye, son of John<sup>3</sup> and Sarah (Cook) Nye, I have no record; he was born probably at Westerly, and died at Exeter, between Mar. 4, 1797, the date of his will (in which he calls himself "old and infirm"), and Oct. 7, 1800, the time when it was approved.

He bought at Exeter, one hundred acres of land, (the western boundary of which was Wood River,) for £300 of John Wilbor of Exeter, in 1753; previous to that date, he had been living in Richmond; he was made freeman of Exeter, May 1758.



The librarian at the Westerly library has some valuable old papers; among them some rate lists for Exeter, date about 1767. John Nye's "List of Ratable Property," gives a house, 100 acres of land, "9 acres of poor shrub land," his stock, and states that he is sixteen miles distant from market.

In 1790, he was appointed administrator of the estate of his son John.

He married Elizabeth, perhaps Popple; as she is not mentioned in his will, the inference is that she died before 1797. There were at least five children, all born before 1774, at which time the family numbered seven.

These children were John<sup>5</sup>, Elizabeth<sup>5</sup>, Isaac<sup>5</sup>, Elias<sup>5</sup> and Mary<sup>5</sup>, the last four being called by name in their father's will.

John<sup>5</sup> died about 1790, for on Sept. 6, 1790, the probate records tell that "Whereas John Ney, Jr., has died intestate and has land, goods and chattels, administration is granted to John Ney." Elizabeth married Levi Barber, and in 1802, she and her husband signed a receipt for her share of her father's estate. Mary was unmarried in 1802, but is said to have afterwards married, as third wife, Solomon Straight of West Greenwich, and to have had three children, Solomon and Tifte Straight, twins, who died unmarried, and Sarah Straight who married Daniel Rodman of Exeter. Elias Nye married Hannah, her surname unknown, and was living at Voluntown, Conn., in March 1818, at which date he sold his portion of the farm which his father had equally divided between Isaac<sup>5</sup> and Elias<sup>5</sup>.

Isaac<sup>5</sup> Nye, son of John<sup>4</sup> Nye, was born at Exeter, about 1763-4, and died there early in 1836, of small-pox; he is buried in a burying ground about fifty rods north of the house, on the farm where he lived; on Mar. 1836, his son Lyman was appointed to settle his estate. Isaac<sup>5</sup> married in 1786, Eunice Pullman, daughter of John and Mary (King) Pullman of Exeter.

Eunice (Pullman) Nye was a tall, fair woman, with light hair and blue eyes; she and her daughter, Elizabeth, passed their last years at the home of her son Lyman, the other sons contributing their share to her support; every year Eunice made a round of visits to her other sons. She died in Coventry and was buried,





according to her wish, on the Cruff farm, the Crufts being old friends of hers.

Isaac<sup>5</sup> and Eunice (Pullman) Nye had eight children, a daughter and seven sons, all born at Exeter; they were, Elizabeth<sup>6</sup>, John<sup>6</sup>, Varnum<sup>6</sup>, Lyman<sup>6</sup>, Simon<sup>6</sup>, Thomas<sup>6</sup>, Joseph<sup>6</sup> and Beriah<sup>6</sup>.

Elizabeth<sup>6</sup>, died unmarried, at the age of seventy-one; Beriah<sup>6</sup>, the youngest son, married in 1844, Mary, daughter of Samuel Barber of Exeter; they had no children, but adopted a child who was known as Byron Nye.

John<sup>6</sup> P. Nye, the oldest son of Isaac<sup>5</sup> and Eunice Nye married first, Rhoda Straight, daughter of Solomon Straight of West Greenwich; he married second, Widow Sarah King who survived him. He had five children all by Rhoda; they were: 1st, Eunice<sup>7</sup>, who married a Richmond; 2nd, George<sup>7</sup>, who had two sons, Edwin<sup>8</sup> and Benjamin<sup>8</sup>; 3rd, Almira<sup>7</sup>, who married Alfred Crandall; 4th, Mary<sup>7</sup> A., who married Hibbard Church; 5th, Sally, who married Peleg Barber.

Varnum<sup>6</sup> Nye, the second son of Isaac<sup>5</sup> and Eunice Nye, was born 14 Dec. 1795, and died in 1857; he married Maria Clarke, daughter of Gardiner Clarke of Hopetown. They had nine children: 1st, Mary<sup>7</sup>, who married Billings Lewis; 2nd, Ruth<sup>7</sup>, who died unmarried; 3rd, Rebecca<sup>7</sup>, who married Alfred Palmer; 4th, Gardiner<sup>7</sup>, who married Amy Clarke; 5th, Lucinda<sup>7</sup>, who married Job Jordan; 6th, George<sup>7</sup>, who married Mary Thompson, and lived at Mansfield Centre, Conn.; 7th, William<sup>7</sup>, who died unmarried; 8th, James<sup>7</sup>, who married Lydia Burdick; 9th, Henry<sup>7</sup>, who married Lydia Tanner.

Lyman<sup>6</sup> Nye, the third son of Isaac<sup>5</sup> and Eunice Nye was born 24 July, 1798, at Exeter, and died 9 Mar. 1839, at North Stonington, Conn. He married Mary Clarke, daughter of Newman and Hannah (Lock) Clarke of Exeter; they had five children, only two of whom are now living, viz.: Silas Allen Nye who married Abbie Arnold, and is living at Anthony, R. I., and Melissa who married Nathan W. Stewart, and lives at North Stonington, Conn.

Simon<sup>6</sup> Nye, the fourth son, was born in 1799 and died 30 Oct. 1858 at Anthony; he married Martha Austin, daughter of Ezekiel and Martha Austin of Exeter; they had five children, one of whom, Isaac, died in the Civil War, unmarried; Clarissa, the only one of



the five who is now living, married William Wood and resides at Anthony.

Thomas<sup>6</sup> Nye, the fifth son of Isaac<sup>5</sup> and Eunice Nye, was born April 13, 1803, and died Dec. 26, 1872, at Hope Valley; he married Alma A. Kenyon, daughter of Thomas and Susan Kenyon; they had eight children, five of whom are now living, they are Elizabeth, who married Thomas Potter and lives at Hope Valley; Susan, who married Isaac Bowen and lives in Providence; Charles, who married Emma Miller and lives at Valley Falls; Abbie, who lives at Hope Valley; and Lewis E., who married first, Jane Tanner, by whom he had a daughter Geneva, who lives at Escoheag; he married second, Jane Collins, daughter of Willard and Harriet (Kenyon) Collins, they have two children, Willard and Maud, all living in Hopkinton.

For the notes on the family of Thomas Nye, I am indebted to Mrs. Lewis E. Nye.

Joseph<sup>6</sup> Nye, the sixth son of Isaac<sup>5</sup> and Eunice Nye, was born 22 Jan. 1806, in Exeter, R. I., and died 23 June 1885, in Cranston, he married first, Sarah Chase Colvin, born 11 June 1809, at Scituate, died 13 May 1846, at Scituate, daughter of Nathan and Alice (Colvin) Colvin; he married second, Ann, daughter of Sanford Knight; third, Malinda Sweet, daughter of Joseph Sweet; he had five children all by the first wife; three of the children died in infancy; the two living are Mary E., who married Ebenezer C. Miner, son of Zebediah and Desire (Comstock) Miner, and lives at Norwich, Conn. Harriet F. who married Harley R. Colvin, son of Benjamin and Lillis (Colvin) Colvin, and lives at Anthony.

Caleb<sup>4</sup> Nye, son of John<sup>3</sup> and Sarah (Cook) Nye, was born about 1720 at Westerly, where he lived previous to 1757, at which time he bought land in Hopkinton, of Stephen Larkin, he was admitted freeman of Hopkinton, in May 1760.

He married Catharine, her surname not given; the births of Catharine in 1752; Joshua in 1758; and Mary in 1761, children of Caleb and Catharine Nye, are recorded at Hopkinton.

He had other children, viz.: Caleb, Phebe and Thankful, whether Catharine was mother to these children, I do not know. In 1774, Caleb was credited with a family of eight.

He died at Hopkinton, July 25, 1796, aged 76 years; his will





dated Apr. 11, 1796, and proved 5 Sept. 1796, mentions his "loving wife," but does not call her by name, his two sons, Caleb and Joshua, and his daughters, Catharine Potter. Phebe Coon, Thankful Brightman and Mary Nye.

Phebe Nye married, 1 May 1768, Elias Coon; Thankful Nye married, 23 May 1782, Thomas Brightman; Catharine Nye married, 21 Mar. 1771, Caleb Potter, son of Thomas and Judith (Rogers) Potter; the Potter Genealogy does not record any children to this marriage. To Caleb's<sup>4</sup> family may be ascribed also, the Sarah Nye of Hopkinton, who on the 9 June 1763, married Timothy Larkin, but she probably died before the date of her father's will.

On the Hopkinton records, is the death of "Mary Nye," July 1788, aged 66 years; this would place her birth about 1722.

She is not called the wife of Caleb Nye, and we have seen that he had a wife living in 1796, also a daughter Mary. Who was this Mary Nye? If she was a wife of Caleb, then he must have been married three times, for his first wife was Catharine.

At the time of my visit to Hopkinton, I was searching for my own direct line, so only took a few notes on Caleb's purchase of land, and on his will; as Caleb willed his land to his two sons, Caleb and Joshua, the land records would furnish further information concerning these sons.

The larger part of this paper has been devoted to the earlier generations of the Nyes of Rhode Island; if all the Nyes of the present time were included, it would appear to be whole pages from the Nye Genealogy. Many histories, genealogies and records have been consulted, the Vital Record of Rhode Island in particular, has furnished many items; but more information has been obtained from the unpublished land and probate records of Westerly, Hopkinton and Exeter. The records of Charlestown and South Kingston still remain to be consulted.

Many thanks are due to those who have contributed family records, (all of which have not been included in this paper, but have been reserved for future use) and to those of my own family who have been importuned in season and out, on the subject.

It is hoped that they will feel repaid, in some degree, by this history of their Rhode Island ancestors.



Mrs. Rogers was followed by Mr. Benjamin F. Nye of Highgate, Vt. He gave an account of the Vermont branch of the Nyes, whom he called a law-abiding and God-fearing people, and spoke as follows:

MEMBERS OF THE NYE FAMILY AND KINDRED FRIENDS:

It is with great pleasure that I come again to Sandwich to a reunion of the Nye Family of America.

Outside of my own family line, I shall not try to give facts, but will leave the field to others who are present.

Nathan and Sylvanus Nye settled in Roxbury, Cheshire county, N. H., in early life. Nathan had a large family, of whom I know but little, except that the children settled near the old home.

Sylvanus was born in 1759. He married Mary Banks, who was born in 1756 and died, Oct. 11, 1839. He died July 25, 1814. Their three sons, Francis, Zify, and Benjamin settled near their parents. Francis had three sons, Otis D., Wight, and Benjamin Franklin, and three daughters, the eldest of whom was Sophia.

Francis owned a farm in Roxbury, N. H., and rented it to his brother, Benjamin. He was a boatman on the St. Lawrence River and Lake Champlain. In 1827 he moved with his family to Ohio. It is said he was very strong. On one occasion he had a dispute with another boatman, who threatened to whip him. There was a barrel of cider near by. Francis said, "If we are to fight let us be good natured about it and have a drink of cider"; then taking the barrel by the chimes and holding it at arms'-length, he drank from the bung-hole and handed it to his companion, who, daunted by such unusual strength, refused an encounter.

Francis moved to Michigan. His son, Dwight, became a physician. Zifa, son of Sylvanus, became crippled, was a shoemaker, moved to Ira, N. Y., thence to another town where trace of him was lost.

Nov. 27, 1809, Benjamin Nye, second, married Mary Wight, daughter of John Wight, a veteran of the Revolution, and remained with his parents on a farm in Roxbury, N. H., for several years. He was an able scholar for those days, Bible history and theology being his daily study, and music his great delight. He was able in





discussion, tenacious of his opinion, and most enthusiastic in Christian work, often going twenty miles to an evening Church service, after a day of labor.

In Feb. 1825, Benjamin moved with his wife and family, consisting of three sons and three daughters, to Fairfield, Vt. Their experience on this trip is still remembered by the eldest son, Nelson, then fifteen years old, now ninety-four in Dec. 17 next, living in Highgate. He says:—"I drove one of the teams, everything seemed to be against us; snow came late that season, sleighing was very poor; one of the five old horses proved to be balky and caused some trouble. Father lost his wallet while working to get up a hill, but found it by advertising in the papers the next spring. When snow went off, one of the sleds, being an old one with iron shoes, wore out and had to be left near Middlesex. We then doubled our load and drove four horses on the wood-shod sled the rest of the way. Mother drove the one-horse sleigh which had only one thill or pole by which to guide and hold back. Her sleigh was so loaded with children and household furniture she rode with her feet in a kettle."

Settling here in Fairfield on a farm, by diligence and frugality, Benjamin was prospered and aided his children in obtaining a liberal education, and was a consistent example to fit them for good citizenship and to be worthy sons and daughters.

Nelson married Eliza Fairbanks, who died in Sept. 1864, leaving one daughter, Fanny Nye Marsh, resident of Sheldon, Vt.; and three sons,—Benjamin, owner of a large farm near his childhood home; Alfred, who served in Co. F, Tenth Reg., at the first call for soldiers; and Chester, promoted to first Lieutenant, then made Captain at the battle of the Wilderness, after the war graduated from the University of Vermont, and was admitted to the bar at St. Albany, Vt., and settled at Pawnee City, Neb., where he is now.

Mary Ann Nye Page died in 1851, leaving six children, the eldest is now in Hyde Park, Vt., the wife of Calvin Warren. Norman B. Page, brother of Mrs. Warren, enlisted as a private from Princeton, Ill. He was soon commissioned Major, but was killed in the battle of Pittsburg Landing. His brother, Nelson N. Page, now a resident of Princeton, Ill., served one year in the war, and received an honorable discharge. Lucian E. Page is a successful





farmer in Princeton. A sister, Mrs. Curtis Wilcox, is in Des Moines, Iowa. Martha Page, wife of Willard Brown, D. D., died in Gilbertville, Mass. Eliza Nye Foss settled in St. Albans, Vt., and died in 1888. Her husband, T. B. Foss, was a successful farmer. Their four daughters are married and have pleasant homes on farms near their parents.

Benjamin Nye, second, now lives in Cambridge, Vt.—his wife died in 1902. His five sons, Henry, a successful farmer in Cambridge, Vt.; William, a merchant in Johnson, Vt.; Arthur, a farmer in Kansas; John, a merchant in Manchester, N. H.; Norman, on the old home farm, are prosperous. There is one daughter, Mrs. Mary Turcot, who lives in Manchester, N. H.

John W., son of Benjamin, first, remained in Fairfield, Vt., and became very wealthy. His wife died in 1902. They had three sons, Alfred, who died in California; Edward, living in California; and George of Fairfield, enterprising and much respected citizens. One daughter, Miss Fanny Nye, lives in Fairfield, at the old home.

Laura W. Nye, youngest daughter of Benjamin, first, married David Lawrence. She inherited the zeal and love for Christian work, and usefulness of her father; and, as she gained competence by increasing industry and frugal expenditure, she gave gladly and generously to all benevolent objects, and hundreds of her carefully earned dollars relieved the poor in distress, lifted the burden of debt from her Church home, the M. E. Church of Swanton, and orphans called her blessed. She fell asleep in Jan., 1903, and her pastor said he had always felt that he was in the presence of one of God's saints when visiting at her home. By her will a large amount was left to the poor, the orphans and the church.

The women of the Vermont branch were characterized by deep religious convictions that were well sustained in their lives. They have loved their homes and have extended a cordial hospitality to friend and stranger, and as God has prospered their labor with abundance, they have thought it wise to share His gifts with those less fortunate.

The Nye men were industrious, thrifty in business, and of strict integrity. Not one thus far has formed the intemperate habit, which is certainly remarkable.

The descendants of Benjamin, first, still occupy farms among the



Green Hills and fertile valleys of old Vermont and its beautiful surroundings. They have been loyal to their country's call in time of its peril. They have not lived in vain beneath the stars and stripes in a state flourishing with an abundance to reward their industry. Protected by its laws they are proud of their state, and appreciate their privileges. The Nye Family of Vermont is a law-abiding and God-fearing people.

William C. Nye of East Barre, Vt., was the last speaker, and though it was getting late all listened with interest to his extemporaneous remarks, which substantially were as follows:

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

I am laboring under a disadvantage today as much as the man did up in Vermont. He was called upon to go and deliver a lecture and he went to the place and delivered it and after he got through, there wasn't much said to him and he went home. The next day some one asked him "How did you get along with your discourse?" "O, remarkably well. I made three very striking points. I made a moving point, I made a very soothing point and I made a very satisfying point. The moving point was, before I had spoken very long quite a number of people had left the church; the soothing point was that about half of the people left fell asleep; and the satisfying point was that they did not ask me to speak again."

I hope you will pardon me if I speak but very few words. I must tell another story right here. I have very often been called Bill Nye, from my stories. I must say that I left my documents at home, the same as the man did up in Vermont. He was a farmer up near where I live and they were about to set a telephone line across his farm, and he had forgotten it until he saw the men in his fields. They had not paid him what it was worth. He saw them one morning setting up the poles and went and asked them what they were doing that for, and ordered them off of his farm. The man in charge said, "We are not going away. We have a right here. We have a commission to come here and set up these poles," and he took a paper from his pocket and said, "This is our permit to





set these poles up." And the farmer saw there was no use in contending with the men as there were eight or ten of them and he was alone, and he started back to his house. On his way back he happened to think of a very ferocious bull that he had and he went and let him out and headed him down towards these men and when the animal saw them he went rushing down toward them and they skedaddled. The farmer followed on to see the event and when he came up to them, he said, "Hullo! say, show him your papers and you are all right." I haven't got my papers.

I am here as an offshoot of Daniel Nye who was born in Tolland, Ct., in 1758. He married Lydia Howe who was born in Sudbury, Ct., in 1756. They both lived until 1844, when they died in Norwich, Vt. My grandfather, Daniel Nye, was the son of John Nye and John Nye was the son of Ebenezer. John Nye and my grandfather were both in the Revolutionary War. Daniel Nye was wounded by the bursting of the breechpin, bursting out the eye. I can remember when I was a small boy in 1844, I was six years of age, I was visiting my grandfather and putting my fist in there. He received a pension. John Nye, his father, was from Tolland and in 1850 he moved with two of his sisters, Mary, and the other name I have forgotten. All the way I know this is, I remember what my father said. Daniel moved to Norwich, Vt., and raised up a family of six boys and no girls. The oldest was Chester Nye whose body was found in the harbor at Boston, drowned. I have the records of all these in this good old Bible. John Nye, my father, was born in 1790 and would today be 114 years old, if alive. My grandparents all lived on both sides, to be more than ninety years of age. My grandmother, on my mother's side, was an own niece of Pres. Jackson, and lived to be 99 years of age. This Bible was bought by my grandfather 102 years ago. That book was printed in 1795 and was bought by my grandparent in 1802. With what records there are in that Bible and what I have learned in other ways I can give a correct report of this Nye branch from 1758 to the present time.

In 1820 Daniel Nye, together with my father, moved to Barre, Vt., and there they settled on a farm adjoining the farm that I now own. Many and many a time have I set my feet on the very places where they have worked, and where they have boiled the sugar from



the maple trees. I meant to have brought down and shown you the old fashioned shaped iron. I have one that was my grandfather's in the shape of a chisel, only the edge was round. He and my father moved there on that farm and they cut the first tree that was ever cut in East Barre, where the house now stands.

When they tapped the sugar trees they had to boil it out in the night, and one time as he was going to his home in the night something came up and stopped him and he spoke to him thinking it was his old dog. But he found out it was a pack of wolves and he didn't know what to do but to go back to the camp and get a brand of fire. He swung that brand of fire and the third time he drove them off he counted them and there were ten in the pack.

My father lived in Barre and had eight children, I being the baby, and that is the cause of my being so small. As my son-in-law, who married my oldest daughter in Vermont used to write from Providence, "Vermont is a good place to be born in but we want to emigrate early."

My oldest sister was born in 1817; she had six boys and one girl. One of her boys is one of the smartest preachers that you have in the good old Bay State, and he has preached at Holyoke, Mass., in the First Congregational Church. The other children are all living. The second child was my brother, George R. Nye, then Laura M. Nye who lived to be 84 years of age and was as happy as a girl of sixteen. The next one was Mary who died at the age of 81 years, two years ago. The next was Samuel Howe Nye who died August 16th, 1880; the next was Martha F. Nye and who is now living but is in a very critical condition. The next was myself born in 1838. I have never lived in the town of Barre. In my former days I was a teacher in the schools.

I tell you that good old Vermont is one of the best places that any one can go to for a summer vacation.

My farm is in the centre of the State and I wish that every one of you could visit old Vermont and when you do, I wish that you would come to East Barre and you will find my latchstring out. I came here 300 miles to meet my cousins and to find out and know that there is such a class of people as I see here, and I can see a class of people that I know are temperate. Temperance is something that should come before us all, and let the mothers of the Nye



Family see to it that their boys and their girls are brought up in a temperate way so that the Nye Family may not go back. Among all the Nyes that I know of in Vermont there is but one intemperate one. There is one that has been brought down by the cursed drink. I am sorry to say he is an own cousin of mine. Mothers of the Nye Family, see to it that your boys and your girls are brought up in a suitable way so that they may be in years to come an honor to the Nye Family of Massachusetts and from the east and the west, from the north to the south, where we find the Nyes scattered. They have all gone from old New England, and as we send them into the west let us send men that we can be proud of and that the west can be proud of when they see they are from old New England.

I shall remember this day as the red letter day of my life ; as being one of the happiest days of meeting with the Nyes of Massachusetts.

I have a little souvenir in my pocket which I will be glad to give to all who will come to me for it. I also have a picture of my home in Vermont, and I would like to have you see this old Bible.

I thank you for this opportunity of speaking with you.

Vermont's situation in northern degree  
Reaches just forty-five from below forty-three  
Its longitude eastward geographer's fix  
From Washington between three and six.

On the north it has Canada, East for its bound,  
On the south, the Bay State, Massachusetts, is found :  
New York on the west with the lake may be seen,  
New Hampshire is east, with the river between.

Vermont, north and south, unless Thompson be wrong  
Is nearly one hundred and fifty miles long ;  
On Canada's line it is ninety miles wide ;  
To cross the south end, forty-one you must ride.

Nine thousand square miles do its limits contain,  
With mountains and valleys, with much of Champlain,  
Though portions of soil in this number embrace  
Are rocky and barren or trackless and waste.

Well named the green Mountains in robes ever green,  
A range through the length of the state may be seen ;  
From the north to the south these mountains run high,  
Branching out in the center in the form of a Y.





The branch lying east is a gradual swell  
Where farms are improved and the Nye family dwell,  
But the principal mountains that run through the state  
Are broken, precipitous, little and great.

In the afternoon Mrs. Helen Holway received the family at her home in East Sandwich. This old house, where seven generations of Nyes were born, was thrown open to the guests from attic to cellar. Fine antique furniture, quaint dishes and many articles of domestic industry of the olden time were seen in the different parts of that very attractive home.

Mrs. Samuel H. Nye and Mrs. Melzord assisted Mrs. Holway in the entertainment of her guests.

The last meeting of the family was at the Casino Friday evening. It was in the form of a farewell Reception and Ball. McCann's Orchestra furnished music for the occasion. After the Promenade Concert, the Nyes joined hands around the Hall and sang two verses of "Auld Lang Syne"—after which dancing was enjoyed until twelve o'clock. Mr. Harry Nye of Zanesville, Ohio, and Mrs. Geo. H. Nye, wife of the President, led the Grand March. Thus closed the second reunion of the Nye Family of America Association.



# THE NYE FAMILY OF AMERICA

THIRD REUNION  
MARIETTA, - OHIO  
1905





THE  
Nye Family of America  
Association

*PROCEEDINGS OF THE THIRD REUNION  
AT MARIETTA, OHIO, AUGUST SIXTEENTH,  
SEVENTEENTH AND EIGHTEENTH*

*1905*

---

PRINTED BY  
THE J. W. STOWELL PRINTING CO.,  
FEDERALSBURG, MD.



MR. AND MRS. S. CURTIS SMITH  
*Committee on Publication*



# OFFICERS

OF THE

## NYE FAMILY OF AMERICA

### ASSOCIATION

---

#### *President*

MR. GEORGE H. NYE, Auburn, N. Y.

#### *Vice-President*

HON. DAVID J. NYE, Elyria, Ohio.

#### *Secretary*

MRS. S. CURTIS SMITH, Newton, Mass.

#### *Treasurer*

MRS. ANNIE NYE SMITH, Roxbury, Mass.

#### *Executive Committee*

WILLIAM L. NYE (Chairman)	Sandwich, Mass.
CHARLES H. NYE	Hyannis, Mass.
WILLIAM F. NYE	Fairhaven, Mass.
HENRY A. BELCHER	Randolph, Mass.
JAMES L. WESSON	Boston, Mass.
EVERETT I. NYE	Welfeet, Mass.
HAROLD B. NYE	Cleveland, Ohio.
JAMES W. NYE	Marietta, Ohio.
MRS. ROWENA NYE COOK	Chillicothe, Ohio.
MRS. HORACE K. NYE	Fairhaven, Mass.



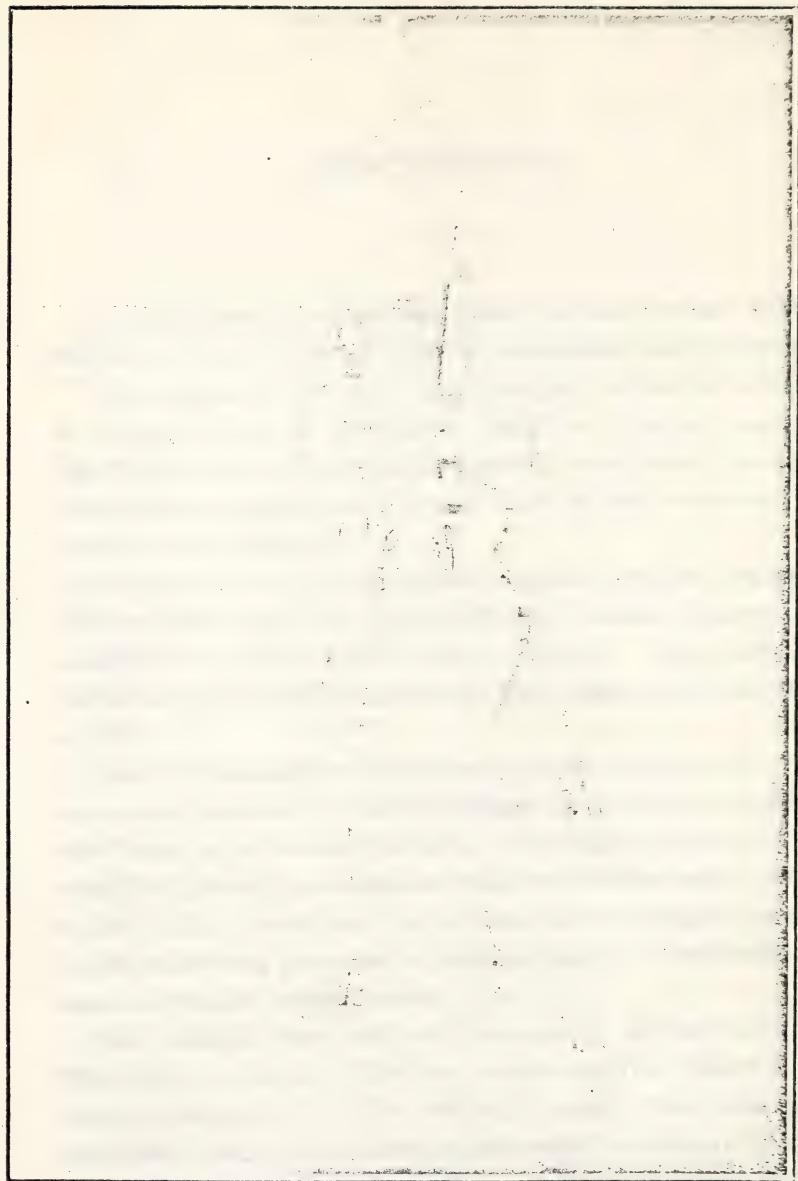


## MEMBERS OF THE NYE FAMILY PRESENT AT THE THIRD REUNION

---

Abbott, J. H., East Whitman, Mass.	Dana, Edward B., Belfre, O.
Abbott, Mrs. J. H., East Whitman, Mass.	Drew, Irving, Portsmouth, O.
Belcher, Henry A., Randolph, Mass.	Drew, Mrs. Ella G., Portsmouth, O.
Belcher, Mrs. H. A., Randolph, Mass.	Derol, Mrs. Grace Dana, Beverly, O.
Brown, Mrs. Rowena E. Nye, Chillicothe, O.	Derol, Miss Mary Dana, Beverly, O.
Buell, Daniel Hand, Marietta, O.	Derol, Miss Helen Dale, Beverly, O.
Buell, Mrs. Daniel Hand, Marietta, O.	Fesler, Mrs. Almira Nye, Middleport, O.
Buell, Miss Ellen Lewis, Marietta, O.	Gates, W. W., Portsmouth, O.
Buell, Miss Betty W., Marietta, O.	Gates, Mrs. Alvira Nye, Portsmouth, O.
Buell, Mrs. Maria N., Marietta, O.	Hayward, Miss J. A., Waterford, O.
Bourne, Ebenezer P., Lowell, Mass.	Holway, Mrs. Helen Nye, East Sandwich, Mass.
Brush, Emerson H., Elmhurst, Ill.	Holway, Mrs. J. R., Sandwich, Mass.
Brush, Mrs. Emerson H., Elmhurst, Ill.	Hungerford, Nye, Ithaca, N. Y.
Curtis, Dr. H. N., Marietta, O.	Leonard, Mrs. M. S., Marietta, O.
Curtis, Mrs. Helen E., Marietta, O.	Lindsay, Mrs. J. N. D., Pittsburg, Pa.
Cook, Mrs. Rowena Nye, Chillicothe, O.	Lovell, Mrs. Sarah Nye, Marietta, O.
Cook, Miss Margaret S., Chillicothe, O.	Lucas, Mrs. Marion C., Columbus, O.
Davis, Hon. Theodore F., Marietta, O.	McDaniels, Heman Nye, Oberlin, O.
Davis, Mrs. Lucy Nye, Marietta, O.	McGee, Dr. F. S., Marietta, O.
Davis, Mrs. Helen Curtis, Marietta, O.	McGee, Mrs. Mary Nye, Marietta, O.
Davis, Miss Grace Ford, Marietta, O.	McGee, Miss Cornelia, Marietta, O.
Dana, Charles S., Marietta, O.	McGirr, Miss Lucy E., Marietta, O.
Dana, Mrs. Charles S., Marietta, O.	McGirr, Mrs. Sarah M., Marietta, O.
Dana, Miss Frances B., Marietta, O.	Nash, Mrs. M. Nye, Zanesville, O.
Dana, John, Belfre, O.	Nash, Simeon, Zanesville, O.
Dana, Mrs. Anna Lockwood, Belfre, O.	Nye, James W., Marietta, O.
Dana, George, R., Belfre, O.	Nye, Miss Mary C., Marietta, O.
Dana, Miss Miriam I., Belfre, O.	Nye, Miss Rebecca D., Marietta, O.
Dana, Lockwood Nye, Belfre, O.	Nye, Miss Katherine P., Marietta, O.
Dana, Roderic L. Belfre, O.	Nye, Miss Laura V., Marietta, O.
Dana, Miss Jeanette P. Belfre, O.	Nye, Anslem T., Marietta, O.
	Nye, Mrs. Anslem T., Marietta, O.
	Nye, Miss Calista P., Marietta, O.





View of the lower part of Marietta, Ohio—taken August 1905.

At the point, at the junction of the Muskingum and Ohio Rivers are shown the stove works of A. T. Nye & Son, (The A. T. Nye & Sons Co., ) founded in 1829 by A. T. Nye 1st. Also Keris (Marietta) Island in the Ohio River.





## PROCEEDINGS

---

THE third reunion of the Nye Family of America was held at Marietta, Ohio, August sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth.

Two reunions of the family had been held at Sandwich, Mass., as Benjamin Nye of Bedlenden, Kent Co., England, was the first Nye to come to America and settled there as early as 1637. His numerous descendents are now found in every state and territory of our country.

Among the first pioneers into the Ohio valley after the Revolutionary War were Mr. Ichabod Nye of Tolland, Connecticut, a soldier of the Revolution, with his family. They settled in Marietta, Ohio, in 1788 where Mr. Nye resided until his death in 1840.

From the descendents of this early settler a very cordial invitation was extended to the Nye Family Association to hold the third reunion in historic Marietta. The eight branches of Ichabod Nye's family are scattered from the Mediterranean Sea to the Pacific Ocean, and yet not one of these eight branches failed in showing their loyalty and devotion by contributing in some way to the entertainment.

Great interest was sustained throughout all the meetings. The leading citizens of Marietta joined with the family in extending hospitality to the visiting guests. The press gave prominent notice of all meetings and social functions relating to the Family as well as printing many of the addresses in full.



A poem, "The good old days of old," written and dedicated to the Nye Reunion by Mr. John Henton Carter, was noted among the many pleasant allusions to the Nye Family Association.

The great success of the formal meetings, as well as of the social features of the occasion, is due in large measure to Mr. James W. Nye of Marietta, who was the local chairman, and to his able committees.

The efficient work of the local corresponding secretary, Miss Mary C. Nye; the artistically arranged programs by Miss Laura Virginia Nye and Miss Rebekah D. Nye; the unique and singularly appropriate badges designed by Miss Minerva Tupper Nye; and the beautiful decorations of the church by Mrs. Henry M. Dawes, Miss Grace Davis, Mrs. Daniel H. Buell, Mrs. John H. Lindsay, Mrs. Frederic S. McGee and Mr. C. Wheeler Nye; all combined to produce most admirable results. It should be gratefully noted that the music committee, Mrs. H. N. Towne of Chillicothe, Ohio, and Mrs. Emerson H. Brush of Elmhurst, Ill., generously furnished at their own expense throughout the meetings, choice and delightful music, both vocal and instrumental. The applause that each number received gave sufficient evidence that the efforts of the music committee were fully appreciated.

The weather was fine throughout the convention and thus an excellent opportunity was given to see the city and visit historic places of interest. By the evening of August 15th many visiting Nyes had arrived in Marietta and these gathered informally at the home of Mr. James W. Nye at nine o'clock for greetings.

On the morning of August sixteenth, the members of the Nye family from far and near gathered at the Unitarian Church to register and to meet Mrs. H. N. Towne, Miss Minerva Tupper Nye and Dr. H. N. Curtis, who were there to receive the guests. While young lads, members of the family, distributed the programs, a bevy of the young misses acted as ushers.



The church, most attractive in itself, had been beautifully decorated. Hardy hydrangeas, scarlet salvia, golden glow and trailing vines were artistically combined, and a large letter "N" of evergreen and flowers was placed in front of the altar.

Owing to the absence of the President, Mr. George H. Nye of Auburn, N. Y., Mr. James W. Nye of Marietta, the chairman of the local committee, by the request of the executive committee, called the meeting to order and presided through the Wednesday session. In his opening remarks he feelingly referred to the death of Mrs. Nye, the beloved wife of our President, and suggested that a telegram be sent to Mr. Nye regretting his absence and expressing our sympathy for him. It was the unanimous vote that the secretary send the message at once.

The first number on the program was an organ prelude by Miss Flora Mason. The invocation hymn composed by Miss Abbie F. Nye of Sandwich, Mass., was sung by the audience, after which followed the address of welcome by Mr. James W. Nye, the chairman. He welcomed his family guests with these words:

#### MY KINDRED:

On the walls at the relic room, hangs a banner bearing the following inscription, taken from an address delivered here in 1888:

"The path from the heights of Abraham led to Independence Hall. Independence Hall led finally to Yorktown, and Yorktown guided the footsteps of your fathers to Marietta. This, my countrymen, then, is the lesson which I read here."

This refers to the little band of stalwart men and brave women, who in 1788, left their New England homes, and turning their faces westward, journeyed by the crude means then in use, in search of new homes, in the then unknown wilds of the territory northwest of the Ohio river, this locality being their objective point. The men forming the advance guard arrived April the 7th, 1788, and their families August the 19th, 1788.

Of this little band of pioneers, Senator John W. Daniel of Virginia said in an address delivered here July 18, 1888:





"The founders of Marietta did not come to the great north-west as the Spaniards went to the Mississippi, in search of gold. They taught a lesson of history in the character of their laws. They taught a lesson of courage in the very nature of their bold adventure. They taught a lesson of prudence in the sedate and organic way in which they went about their business. But they came here as home-seekers and home-builders. They remembered that the most sacred altar of the living God is the mother's knee, and that the brightest torch that Liberty lights wehn she goes to the head of brave battalions, is kindled by the fire-side of home. They came here bringing with them their household goods, their wives and their children. And when they faced the savage toward the west, they could look over their shoulders and see behind them the sweet face of woman, and hear the prattle of children around the cabin door. It was this, as much as anything else, that made them great. For the home is the cornerstone of earth's greatest temples. And it was an American poet who sung,

"Through pleasures and palaces where ere we may roam,  
Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home."

I think that we may be pardoned for remembering on this occasion with just pride, that our family was well represented in this company of pioneers, and I ask your indulgence for telling you in a brief way, whom two of these representatives were, leaving for other and abler minds to relate the record of the brave women of the party.

First. General Benjamin Tupper; born at Sharon, Mass., 1738; brought his family to Marietta, Aug. 19, 1788. He died, June 16, 1792. General in the Revolutionary war. Member of the Order of Cincinnati. Director of the Ohio Company, and Master of Masons.

Second. Col. Ichabod Nye; born at Tolland, Conn., 1762. Soldier in the Revolutionary war, 1779, 1780 and 1781. Came to Marietta, Aug. 9th, 1788, his family arriving ten days later. Died Nov. 27, 1840.

Colonel Nye was a man of sterling qualities and strict in honesty and personal habits. Was prominent in all matters of his day that promised good and progress for the new settlement. A manufacturer and a merchant, he reared a Roosevelt family of five sons and four daughters, who have now all passed to the



great beyond. In regard to him, I quote from an article prepared by Miss Willia Dawson Cotton, in 1900:

Col. Nye had ever the good of the town at heart. He was intensely interested in preserving the ancient works, and in 1837 called the attention of the citizens to the "Big Mound," which had been badly neglected for some years. The sextons had used the ground as a pasture for their sheep, and the tracks made had been washed into great holes by the rains. Through Col. Nye's efforts over \$400 were raised and the needed improvements made in the following year. Stone steps were placed on the north side of the mound, which was restored to its original shape and protected by a railing at the smmit."

Thus has our city and its ancient works ever been fostered by our family, and now to this city that our ancestors have assisted in making possible, to this city of roomy parks, wide streets, beautiful trees, handsome lawns, and full of historic interest, I bid you welcome, welcome, thrice welcome to our city, our homes and our hearthstones, and I repeat to you what I said at Sandwich, two years ago, that the latch string is out and hangs so low that all can reach it, and you are not only invited, but expected to pull it. And when you return to your homes, may you do so with a realization of having quaffed of a cup brimful of pleasure and with enduring pleasant recollections of Marietta hospitality.

In the absence of the President, Mr. S. Curtis Smith of Newton, Mass., was asked to respond to the address of welcome, which he did in substantially these words :

**MR. CHAIRMAN :—**

I deem it an honor to be considered worthy to take the place of our esteemed President, to respond to your gracious words of welcome. We all sympathize with him in his great bereavement. It is eminently fitting that we extend to him our sympathy. For there is a bond that binds this family together, that should cause true friendship to exist.

My acquaintance with the Nye Family of Marietta, which was begun at the reunions at Sandwich, was so delightful, and the invitation to hold this reunion at Marietta was so cordial and so earnest, that it did not require any urging to induce me to come. We were told that "the latch string would be out," but I find the doors have been opened wide to receive us. I certainly feel that your cordial invitation is to be fully realized.





I think this city is an ideal place for the reunion, not only because of its historic worth, but also because of its natural beauty, its wide streets, its beautiful elms and maples, and its clean pavements. I wonder if such cleanliness always exists, or is due to the copious showers of yesterday, Dame Nature sent to aid the preparation for our welcome. I am inclined to think it is the result of your regulations and efforts, for showers, however abundant, do not accomplish so much, if filth and papers are allowed to collect.

During the last part of our journey from Cleveland, the showers came down in torrents, but they did not dampen our ardor in the least, for we were passing through that labyrinth of windings and our attention was attracted to the scenery with its gracefully rounded hills rising from undulating dales. Just as we emerged from this scene the sun broke through the clouds and revealed to us your city and its charming surroundings. A more pleasing introduction could not be desired.

As I came into this church, the kind expressions of welcome, the intelligent and happy faces of all, and the decorations, so artistically arranged, produced an agreeable sensation and a lively anticipation of the pleasure awaiting us.

My friends, we meet to renew old and to form new acquaintances—surely, a worthy object, but, coming as we do from remotely separated sections of our country, it seems to me that our meeting should serve a broader and more significant purpose. It should not only strengthen the family tie, but also it should exert an influence of a patriotic nature—fostering a sentiment that shall discourage prejudice and dispel all antagonisms arising from misunderstanding one another. I bespeak for the visiting Nyes their appreciation of what you have done to make our reunion a happy one.

One of the most interesting features that followed was a duet, "Hark, Hark My Soul," by Mrs. Emerson H. Brush of Elmhurst, Ill., and Miss Muriel Palmer of Marietta, Ohio. It was most beautifully rendered, Mrs. George Alexander was the accompanist on the piano, Miss Muriel Palmer sung a solo, entitled "The Day is Done," in a very delightful manner. The audience showed their appreciation of each musical number rendered by their enthusiastic applause.



Mr. George Nye of Chillicothe, Ohio, the oldest living member of the Ichabod Nye family, seventy-eight next January, prepared a paper for this occasion, entitled, "The Ohio Company," but was excused from reading, at his request. It reads as follows:

General Rufus Putnam and General Benjamin Tupper made the first call to organize it in January, 1786. The organization and subscriptions were completed in about a year. Influenced by the Ohio Company, Congress passed the ordinance of 1787 to govern the "North West Territory," which was then a wilderness but now comprises the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin.

A company of emigrants left New England in 1787 and 1788. At Pittsburg, during the winter, boats were built in which forty-eight men went down the Ohio River and landed at the place now called Marietta, at noon on the seventh of April, 1788. The women and children and equipment came in boats during the summer.

These men and women knew how to work. A stockade containing Block Houses and dwellings and other houses outside of the same, were rapidly built and Marietta was surveyed and started. Governor Arthur St. Clair and Judges and other officers came in the Summer, and a Territorial government began.

*First* and most important of all, slavery and involuntary servitude, were excluded from the North-West Territory and the States formed from it.

*Second*, Religion, Education, Intelligence and Justice went with Freedom.

*Third*, The result of the Ohio Company's influence upon Congress as to the ordinance of 1787 was such, that the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin did almost half in the Revolution towards freeing the United States.

*Fourth*, The Revolution having succeeded, a deserved peace was declared and officers, soldiers and people of New England were paid for their military services in the best lands the United States had. According to the settlement, the Ohio Company was to have 1,500,000 acres for \$1,000,000. They only paid for and received 964,285 acres.

Ichabod Nye and Minerva Tupper Nye, his wife, and Ebenezer Nye, his brother, came in 1788 to Marietta where they reared large families. Ichabod Nye died in 1840.





Mrs. Theodore D. Dale of Montclair, N. J., had written for the Association an excellent paper, entitled, "Marietta," but being unable to be present, it was read by her cousin, Miss Martha Sproat of Chillicothe, Ohio.

Mrs. Dale's paper follows:

It has fallen to me to speak of Ichabod Nye's home after his pilgrimage from Connecticut to the great western country, Marietta, lying at that point where the picturesque Muskingum joins the mighty Ohio, a place "beautiful for situation," and prized for its strategic value long years before the white man's discovery and occupation. Other papers before this gathering will treat its geographical fitness for a frontier settlement, together with those larger associations destined always to shed a peculiar lustre on Marietta's orderly beginnings. Founded, as has been said of Sandwich, also, by "brave and intelligent freemen, who lived in simple ways, pursued homely vocations, combined hard manual labor with good social position, brought education to the threshold of every child, enjoyed a democratic church," and whoever strove to pass on to posterity the legacy of a happy home, its history richly illustrates much that is common to high endeavor the world over, and much that is special in American colonization. It is left for this paper to recast a few phases in Marietta's domestic development, and to ask how far that development realized the high hopes and bright ideals of those home-seeking freemen, and of our own honored ancestor. What of the town they founded to be a home for their children and then of their grand-children, when they, in time, had come to man's estate? It is impossible to answer critically, even as one can never thus speak about objects closely linked with personal recollection, but unnumbered voices from later generations have continued passionately to declare those beautiful dreams and hopes to be more than fulfilled, yes, a thousand fold! And Ichabod Nye's descendants have long swelled that chorus, and fervently blessed the star which led him to this beautiful valley, the star which today brings Sandwich to Marietta for this meeting of cousins. Truly, we believe he builded better than he knew, and Fate was kind indeed linking him and his with that fine band of western colonists. As a community of home seekers and home makers from the first stake driven into its soil, Marietta has borne a highly individual





stamp. Its physical map, marked over by the imprint of two races of mankind is not more distinctive than the lines of its social metes and bounds. New England in character at the outset, that character long persisted despite its remote location and the early infusion of elements from other sections, elements which added strength and grace in happy proportion. Situated on the border of slave territory, isolated from the great land highways, shut off from modifying contact with sister communities, the colony was forced into intense self-development and out of this environment grew a remarkable solidarity of public spirit and social unity, endowing the settlement with something akin to personality. Its high reputation attracted settlers of the best stamp and offered no encouragement to the adventurous and lawless—classes ever ready to fix on frontier and river towns—and for more than half a century its society continued remarkably homogenous. It was composed of an unusual number of large and influential family groups, each cherishing a wholesome respect for the other; intimate and united in the greater and the smaller interests of life and of their town, and wisely tolerant in those points of difference common to people of independent thought and opposite temperaments. This happy relation between near neighbours was of incalculable value in branding a superior character upon the town, and few communities have ever exhibited a higher level of ordinary living or a keener sense of public responsibility. Its early annals give a surprising succession of concerted and broadly conceived movements toward commercial, educational and social betterment, faithfully carried out by the next generation of citizens, and, in turn, passed on to us, as a perpetual charge.

At a time when Marietta still corresponded in size to the old Greek's measure of what a town should be for good government—one small enough for each man to know his fellows,—and was still free from those "twin distempers" of a state, poverty and riches, it was an ideal place for a home.

Hard conditions of pioneer days had disappeared, and it had now become possible for fathers and mothers to revive more of the social graces and conventions observed in older societies. Compared with modern ornate styles, the houses of that day would seem plain to bareness, but they were the dignified and appropriate expression of the high-caste living within. Each dwelling, with its formal door-yard and kitchen garden, most carefully fenced in, bespoke the independence and quality of its



occupants, and cousins here today fondly remember those homes as radiant with love and filled with warm human interest.

Added to currents from these firesides, life in the little town was permeated by a stimulating flavor from the young college, and from the liberal spirit of those who had made the college possible and believed in the high mission awaiting it. It was a spirit which had always been zealous in support of the Christian Church, in erecting houses of worship, in generous provision for pastors, and in whatever else promoted religious welfare. How well we understand that such standards unfailingly enrich and enoble the conduct and life of communities; and our citizens were destined to confirm that old truth in their widening sense of human rights and man's obligation to his neighbor. As an illustration: years before the Washingtonian wave reached this frontier settlement, local public conscience had been awakened to the blighting power of alcoholic beverages then in universal favor, and under that awakening had risen and declared against their use and manufacture. The national temperance uprising was the more significant to us because in spirit and act it had been anticipated by our forefathers. Some of us are proud to claim descent from one struggling farmer of that period, who, rather than profit further from a traffic he now believed to be destructive and immoral, tore down his stills and poured his brandy upon the ground. With him, as with many of his neighbors, to know the right was to do it, at whatever pecuniary sacrifice. Watching this type of citizen in Ohio were those Virginians across the river whose enlightened convictions led them to free their slaves and to reward their past services. On the justice or injustice of slavery, and its proper mode of abolishment, on States Rights, on Secession, and on kindred burning questions, radical and tense differences divided the town, and sometimes led to excitement bordering on riots, as in the case of Free Speech Meetings in 1835. But the majority of citizens advocated the immediate abolition of slavery and believed in the preservation of the Union. In defense of that belief their sons finally stood ready for the supreme sacrifice—life itself. What that defense cost is, in part, commemorated by our soldiers' monument.

In a town so directly an outgrowth of the struggle for Independence, it goes without saying that National interests would always be eagerly followed and ardently discussed, but travelers from the Eastern States, who sounded its public pulse, were





not quite prepared to find it awake to all large questions and closely in touch with the higher thought of the world,—a mistake they frequently betrayed by a lack of tact more amusing than displeasing to the people under observation.

This same progressive and dominant spirit also demanded and fostered early newspapers, a circulating library, magazine and reading clubs, and a lecture lyceum. The study of music from the outset, was regarded as important; accomplished teachers came and met enthusiastic support, as no one could question who heard the church choirs and concerts in parlor and hall. Oh, were ever such ballads sung elsewhere or by such beautiful voices? And then the parties, to dinner, to tea, to spend the evening, and in the summer, the exciting round of Commencement Weeks,—with impressive array of dignitaries as background for the President's Levee, and the lesser gatherings. Delightful exchange with delightful people! How can the charm of it all be recalled? As soon replace the lily's scattered petals, and equally futile to attempt to tell of that other perfect memory, Marietta cookery. The best from New England, the best from the South, were they not found blended on its bountiful tables? And could anything short of a separate paper dare touch on those soul satisfying baskets carried to picnics on the Hill, or up the river to the Rocks?

You who do not share these social joys, can never be made to believe a half of the truth, and for those of you who did share and now remember them, the truth is something far beyond mere words, and calls for language made up of smiles and sighs, of laughter and of tears. And any picture of that life would be sadly incomplete which failed to put into the foreground its fascination for visitors. We doubt if any town ever deserved or enjoyed a more enviable reputation among its guests, for they found here a combination of fine social traits and customs suffused with a distinctive local coloring, producing happy and lasting impressions; impressions of "contentment" with small means, of elegance rather than luxury, of refinement rather than fashion, befitting a people whose sires had founded a state.

But how unsatisfactory, how almost mocking it is to speak of Marietta as a whole, to analyze its heart and dissect its personality! So much of what has just been said might quite as fittingly describe any other than the town of our affections. It is of the individuals—the men and women, with whom, side by side, we have walked the streets, into whose eyes we have look-



ed and whose vanished hands clasped ours in living warmth—it is of these we think today, and wish to speak, name by name. Such loving tributes lie outside the scope of this paper, but we must make just one exception, and that one in honor of the notable and generous citizen of Marietta who built the beautiful church in which we meet today,—the Honorable Nathan Ward. His service for the welfare of this whole region would be difficult to over-estimate. It felt—it still feels—the influence of his fine personality, liberal sympathy, business grasp, and his hospitality in a home conducted after most dignified and finished standards, and the scene of many distinguished gatherings.

As a nucleus for the country neighborhoods, close allies in blood and tradition, Marietta exerted a central and supreme influence not only as the official seat and trading point, but because in its role as host, it dispensed a hospitality enjoyed by the whole county. In no other way, perhaps, was this influence so valuable and so far-reaching as in its effect on the young men and young women of Belpre, Warren, Beverly, Waterford, Newport, and from towns across the river in Virginia and beyond, who came to study in its college and seminary. At that time it was customary for the best families to receive these young people as boarders, and a great good fortune for them it was, for over and above all gains in book knowledge, they learned a code of good behavior, still quoted to their grandchildren, who associate that old Marietta with the seven Wonders of the world and the Delphian oracle. Measured by the ecstatic emotions filling the heart of one little Belpre visitor in that long-ago, who scarcely breathed for joy and wonder as she skipped through the enchanted streets and tip-toed into the delightful homes of her four great-uncles, "the glory that was Greece and the grandeur that was Rome" would shrink to beggarly insignificance. Nor have time and intimacy entirely altered that measure, for when she now uses Marietta as a yard stick, she finds few towns which do not fall short in some important quality, essential to the satisfying dimensions of her first love. This in barest outline is the town in which Ichabod Nye lived for fifty-two years, in which his wife, Minerva Tupper, lived for forty-eight years, and in which his nine children grew to maturity, and where his four younger sons spent practically all their lives; in all covering a period just one hundred years. They found great opportunities—they faced great responsibilities. Did they contribute their share to building here a strong society





and a beautiful town? Did they appreciate their obligations and their inheritance? Did they love the place as their very own, and stop at no reasonable sacrifice in its behalf? We, their descendants, are proud to believe that they did contribute their full share; to believe that they were always intensely alive to their rare opportunities, and that when they themselves did not lead, they were ready to follow faithfully in every good way and work. Their history as a family and as individuals is written in the history of the town, and while we who meet here, may well bless the star which brought the Nyes to Marietta, we do not hesitate to say that for Marietta, as well as for the Nyes, it was a star of happiest omen.

At the conclusion of this paper the Chairman remarked, I see no reason why I should not be proud of my cousins, especially when one can write so well and another read so well.

As the Trustees of the Unitarian Church had tendered the free use of their beautiful edifice to the Association for all their meetings, Mr. William L. Nye of Sandwich, Mass., the Chairman of the Executive Board, moved that a vote of thanks be extended for their kindness.

It was passed unanimously.

The next musical number was a solo, sung by Miss Muriel Palmer, "Angus McDonald," which was heartily encored.

The old First Congregationalist Church of Marietta, the Church of the Pioneers, built nearly one hundred years ago, in which the family had expected to hold the Association meetings, was entirely destroyed by fire in the early morning of February thirteenth, 1905. Among the founders of the church and contributors to the original building in 1807 were Ichabod Nye and his wife Minerva Nye. To recall this to memory, Mr. James W. Nye, the local Chairman, had procured from the ruins, wood from which he had made a gavel. He presented this touching relic as an historical souvenir, to be used at this and all future meetings of the Nye Association.





The Chairman then introduced Hon. David J. Nye of Elyria, Ohio, the vice-president of the Association, and the orator of the day. His very able paper, prepared for this occasion, was entitled, "The Beginnings of Ohio," which was listened to with marked attention.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN AND KINDRED FRIENDS:—

We stand today on the banks of the river, where in 1788 were made the Beginnings of Ohio.

A century and a quarter ago this beautiful state was a vast wilderness, covered with the primeval forests, inhabited only by wild and savage beasts and more savage human beings. The native Indians then roamed this fair land and claimed dominion over it.

The forests have given way to fields of growing grass and golden grain, and our rivers and lakes are now white with the sails of commerce. Where the hut and wigwam once sheltered the red man, the school and church now stand to point the way to intelligence and christian civilization. On the banks of the rivers and lakes where the indian moored his bark canoe, and where desolation and gloom prevailed, now stand thriving cities and villages, and the smoke of industry proclaims the handiwork of man. The earth and hills give up their minerals, and the fields yield abundant products for man's use.

It was at the close of the Revolutionary war. Those officers and soldiers, who had, for seven eventful years, fought for the independence of their country, had gained the greatest victory for mankind the world has ever known. The country was impoverished and was not able to pay its officers and soldiers the debt it owed them. The happy solution was presented of paying them in public lands, or rather permitting them to settle and build up that portion of the country known as the Northwest Territory. It was bounded on the east by Pennsylvania, on the south by the Ohio river, on the west by the Mississippi and on the north by the Great Lakes. This territory embraced what are now the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and a part of Minnesota. It has a vast extent of about 260,000 square miles,—more than all the territory of Germany, Switzerland and Denmark,—more than the combined extent of England, Portugal, Italy and Greece. It was a



vast empire in itself. Washington had seen it and knew its value and the fertility of the soil. His generals and soldiers, who had been with him in the great struggle against England, knew of it. He once said if the federal army was defeated by the British he would go to the Northwest Territory.

The country was ripe for such an opening, and the best and bravest men of New England, and the east, were ready to take advantage of the opportunity. A company, known as the Ohio Company, was formed by men who had taken part in the Revolution. The first meeting held for the purpose of forming this company was called by Generals Rufus Putnam and Benjamin Tupper. The former was a brave and daring general under Washington, and the latter a true and faithful officer in the Revolution.

The meeting to organize this Company was held on the 3rd of March 1786 in the "Bunch of Grapes" tavern in the city of Boston and was attended almost entirely by New England officers who had so recently led the armies to victory. They had fought at Lexington and Concord, and poured out their blood at Bunker Hill. They had been with Washington at Brandywine, at Germantown and Valley Forge. Some of them had fought upon every battlefield for the independence of their common country. Two hundred and eighty five of these brave men composed the Ohio Company which was destined to make an opening in the Northwest. The purpose of this company was to buy a large tract of land in the Ohio valley and start a new settlement—a new state. On its organization men were sent to appear before the Continental Congress to urge the passage of the Ordinance of 1787, otherwise known as the Ordinance of Freedom. This Ordinance, passed July 13th, 1787, was one of the grandest documents ever framed for the good of mankind, and for the establishment of a free and enlightened government, "of the people, by the people, and for the people." It was next to the Constitution of the United States in its wise and lasting provisions. Among other things it provides that, "Religion, Morality, and Knowledge being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall be forever encouraged." This provision was advocated by the Puritans of New England, who had been schooled in the Academies and Colleges of the East, and knew the worth of a free education. Many of them had been educated at Yale, Harvard and Williams universities. Is it any wonder that they should





advocate such a provision in the document which was to be one of the foundation stones of this new empire? Another and the most important provision of this Ordinance of Freedom, and the one from which it derived its name is the following: "There shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the said territory, otherwise than in the punishment of crimes, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted." This breathed into the new document a spirit of freedom and independence, that was inspiring to the sons and daughters of the Pilgrims, and gave them confidence that they might have a colony and later a state, that never should be cursed with slavery or involuntary servitude. It was an invitation to all lovers of free governments and free institutions, wherever located, to come to the Northwest Territory. New England had seen the curse of slavery, and all who breathed its air were free. Many in the slaveholding states of the South had become dissatisfied with the institution of slavery, and were desirous of an opportunity for separating themselves from its evils.

This foundation having been laid for a free and enlightened government in this Northwest Territory, the Ohio Company purchased from the General Government about 1,000,000 acres of land at and near the mouth of the Muskingum River for the price of sixty six and two thirds cents per acre payable in Government script. In December 1787 the first party of forty eight men of the Ohio Company led by General Rufus Putnam set out for their new homes in the Great West. They had been inured to hardships by a service in the war of the Revolution, that had prepared them for a winter's journey through forests, over rivers and mountains, and along trails blocked with snow and ice. This party arrived at the mouth of the Muskingum river on April 7th, 1788, and there founded the town of Marietta. Soon after, on August 19th, 1788, another party headed by General Benjamin Tupper arrived at the new settlement. In this party were Ichabod Nye and Minerva Nye. Among those who came at this time were the first women of this New England Company. They were brave and virtuous women, the wives of gallant soldiers, all of whom had come into a wilderness to lay the foundation of the new government.

Other settlers came from time to time until there was a large community gathered on the new purchase. General Rufus Putnam was the superintendent of the Ohio Company. Marietta was located on the easterly side of the Muskingum river, oppo-



site Fort Harmer, where the United States garrison was then stationed. It became necessary for the new settlers to fortify and protect themselves against the Indians. They built a fort which was named by them "Campus Martius." It may not be out of place for me to give a brief description of this fort for the benefit of those who visit Marietta for the first time. The following description is said to have been written by General Rufus Putnam in 1788: "Campus Martius is the handsomest pile of buildings on this side of the Alleghany Mountains, and in a few days will be the strongest fortification in the territory of the United States. It stands on the margin of the elevated plain, on which are the remains of the ancient works, mentioned in my letter of May last, thirty feet above the high bank of the Muskingum, twenty nine perches distant from the river and two hundred and seventy six from the Ohio.

It consists of a regular square having a block house at each angle eighteen feet square on the ground, and two stories high: the upper story on the outside or face jutting over the lower one eighteen inches."

He further says, "In all the buildings of this square there will be seventy two rooms of eighteen feet and upwards, inclusive of the lofts and garrets, which, at twelve persons to a room (a moderate proportion in case of necessity) will lodge eight hundred and sixty four people \* \* \* The block house intended for the bell, with a part of the adjacent curtains has a hall appropriate to public use, where three hundred people may assemble. The open space within the square of buildings is one hundred and forty four feet on each side, in the center of which a well is now digging."

This in brief was the condition of Campus Martius in 1788. In 1791 during the Indian troubles it was still further fortified by placing "a row of palisades sloping outwards \* \* \* Twenty feet outside of these was a row of very large and strong pickets set upright in the earth, with gateways for the admission of the inhabitants. A few feet in advance of the outer pallisades was placed an additional defense or abatis, made from the tops and branches of trees sharpened and pointing outwards. So that it would have been very difficult for an enemy to have penetrated even within their outworks."

"Campius Martius was the official headquarters of the Governor and Secretary of the Northwest Territory, their residences and the public offices being situated there. In addition the res-





idences of the Superintendent of the Ohio Company's affairs and other prominent members of the Ohio Company were there."

In a reunion of the Nye Family it may not be inappropriate to speak more particularly of General Benjamin Tupper and Colonel Ichabod Nye. It is well known to all the Nyes present that Benjamin Nye of Sandwich, Mass., our common ancestor, and the first of that name who came to this country, married Katharine Tupper. She was a daughter of Thomas Tupper of Sandwich, Mass., the first of that name who settled in America.

General Benjamin Tupper was a direct descendant of Thomas Tupper of Sandwich, Mass. He was a son of Thomas Tupper, Jr. On the breaking out of the Revolutionary war he was a Lieutenant of Militia. He took an active part in that war and was an able and efficient officer. For meritorious acts in the service he received the special thanks of Washington. Near the close he was made a Brigadier General by brevet. He was instrumental in organizing the Ohio Company and conducted the first party that came with their families to the Northwest Territory. He brought his own among the first families that came. His services in surveying and laying out the lands of the Ohio Company were very valuable. He became one of the judges in the courts of the territory, which office he held until his death 1792.

Colonel Ichabod Nye was also among the first that came with their families. His wife was Minerva Tupper Nye, the daughter of General Benjamin Tupper. He was a soldier in the war of the Revolution and still a young man when he came to Marietta. He was a useful and honorable citizen. This couple were the ancestors of the Nyes in this part of the state.

It would be impossible in the time allotted to me, to go into details of the acts of the individuals who first settled in Marietta, or even to give the names of those most prominent. To name a few, other than those particularly connected with this reunion, would be to omit many equally worthy and honorable.

When General La Fayette visited Marietta in 1825, and the names of the pioneers were read to him, he said, "I knew them all. I saw them at Brandywine, at Yorktown, at Monmouth, and at Rhode Island. They were the bravest of the brave."

A walk about this city will reveal to us the places where the early settlers first landed and a monument erected to their memory; the site of "Campus Martius"; the old land office; the his-





toric mounds; the site of Fort Harmar and many other historic places. Many of the buildings have passed away like the early inhabitants, but the influence of this people upon society and the history of the state remains and will remain forever. Monuments and tablets have been erected to commemorate many of these historic places and events. These monuments have been erected by the descendants of the pioneers. Loving hands have clasped the tablets and devoted hearts have contributed to their usefulness and beauty. Long after the marble and granite, of which they are constructed, have crumbled to dust the principles for which these ancestors struggled will survive.

Following the adoption of the Ordinance of 1787 Congress organized the first government of the Northwest Territory by the appointment of General Arthur St. Clair, Governor; Samuel Holden Parsons, James M. Varnum and John Cleve Symmes, Judges. General St. Clair was a Scotchman by birth but at the time of his appointment was a resident of Pennsylvania. Judge Parsons was from Connecticut, Judge Varnum from Rhode Island and Judge Symmes from New Jersey. Winthrop Sargent from Massachusetts was made Secretary. The new officers were installed into office and the new government set in motion on the 15th of July, 1788.

In the meantime the General Government set off a large tract of 4,200,000 acres of land between the Scioto and Miami rivers to be distributed among the soldiers of Virginia who had fought in the Colonial Army. This was in fulfillment of a promise made to them by the Colony of Virginia. This tract of land is known as the Virginia Military District. It was first settled by Kentuckians who had come from Virginia into Kentucky, then by men direct from Virginia. They were a strong and hardy people imbued with the desire of self government and free institutions. The first capital of the state was located at Chillicothe in this district.

The little state of Connecticut had laid claim to a large tract of land in the Northwest Territory, but released it upon condition that she could have about 4,000,000 acres of land extending from Pennsylvania 120 miles westward, and from Lake Erie south to the 41st Parallel of North Latitude. This concession was made by the General Government and this tract of country is now called the Connecticut Western Reserve. Owing to the fact that the southern shore of Lake Erie as it extended westerly approached the south more than was at the time supposed,



there was not as much land in the tract as had been estimated and the state only got a little over 3,000,000 acres. But the Western Reserve now contains 173,000 acres more territory than the whole state of Connecticut. About 500,000 acres of the western portion of the Western Reserve was given to the people of Connecticut who had suffered from the destruction of property by fire at the hands of the British during the Revolutionary war. This tract of half a million acres which embraces the counties of Huron and Erie is called the Firelands. The entire Western Reserve except the Firelands was authorized to be sold by an act of the legislature of the State of Connecticut passed May, 1795. It was sold to a company known as the Connecticut Land Company for \$1,200,000.

This company was composed of many of the leading men of Connecticut, New York and other states. They were Puritans and Revolutionary officers and soldiers. In May, 1796, a party set out to make surveys and settle the new Connecticut under the leadership of General Moses Cleveland, a veteran of the Revolutionary war and a citizen of Canterbury, Connecticut. His party consisted of fifty men and two women. They made their way overland to Buffalo and then by water along the southern shore of Lake Erie and landed in the Western Reserve at Conneaut, July 4th, 1796. There they celebrated Independence day. Then they came to the mouth of the Cuyahoga river and founded the city which bears the name of the leader of that first party and which is now the metropolis of the State, Cleveland. This was the advance guard from Connecticut to the Western Reserve. Others followed in rapid succession.

Another tract of land between the Great and Little Miami rivers consisting of 1,000,000 acres was contracted for, in 1788, by John Cleve Symmes and his associates. Within this tract is the territory now occupied by Cincinnati, long since called the "Queen City of the West," and for many years the largest city of Ohio. Other tracts were purchased from the Government and the purchasers began to settle upon them.

Ohio was carved out of this Northwest Territory. It extended from the Ohio river on the south to the Great Lakes on the north, and from Pennsylvania westward to what is now the east line of Indiana. It embraced an extent of 41,000 square miles. It is larger than the entire area of New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut and Delaware.





Its soil was rich and productive. Its surface was rolling and undulating with here and there a plain. It was watered by the most beautiful creeks and rivers. Its hills were underlaid with iron, coal, and other minerals. It was covered with the primeval forests, whose trees were anchored deep in the virgin soil and had stood the storms of centuries. What an opportunity to build a state! But it wanted men and women of ability, energy and determination. Would they come? Would such men and women come? Where would they come from? Yes, they would come. They did come. They came from every New England state. They came from Virginia, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and from every source where there were men and women fired with the spirit of liberty and independence, christianity and patriotism. The descendents of the Puritans came, the soldiers of the Revolution came. Some of the best and bravest of every community came. It was the first state that was settled by Americans.

They brought with them their sterling characters, their vigor and their patriotism. They were not wanting in any of the qualities that go to make a great community and state. Aside from the Puritans there were stalwart men and women of English, Irish, German, and French birth and extraction. But they were also Americans. They were the most cosmopolitan people that ever gathered in a single state. In the great struggle for Independence Patrick Henry said he was not a Virginian but an American. So it was with all who came to settle Ohio, they were Americans.

At first the people from the east gathered in different districts according to the state or section from which they came. And for a time they kept separate from each other. But they soon began to mingle with one another until every community contained citizens of different states, different religions and descendants from different nationalities. Their interests became as one and they formed as strong a people as had joined in any state.

The culture of the Puritan had been transplanted to the forests of Ohio. The patriotism of the Colonies had been transferred from the fields of battle and the scenes of carnage to the fields and woods of the new land. The musket and the bayonet had been exchanged for the axe and the plow. On the arrival of the first settlers they lived amid the towering oaks, the lofty sycamores and the whistling pines. Their first days and nights were spent under the outstretched arms of the welcoming trees.



Then it was that the axe was heard to echo through the forests and the lofty trees were made to kiss the earth and to make way for the log cabin. These humble cabins became the mansions of the freemen, who were in fact the monarchs of this lovely land. The sterling qualities of these new settlers could not be hemmed in by the four walls of a log cabin, or the narrow confines of a clearing in the forest. They looked beyond the immediate present and saw in the near future a great state. The forests gave way before their axes and in their place came forth productive fields and farms. This work went on until the entire country was transformed into a beautiful state.

In the early settlements in the Northwest Territory the Indians were troublesome and treacherous. The settlers were constantly harassed by them, and many times driven from their farms and clearings. Some settlements suffered from the inhuman attacks upon men, women and children. Massacres were not uncommon. Sometimes a whole community would be driven within the fort and its enclosures, and compelled to remain there for weeks and months. The crops of the white people were destroyed or appropriated by the red men. Their cattle and horses were killed or driven away. This caused much suffering and hunger among the white people. Although there were birds and wild animals in the forests nearby, the whites dared not venture out to shoot and bring them in.

From 1790 to 1795, the state of Ohio was overrun with warlike Indians. In the summer of 1790 General Harmar gathered together an army with which to drive the Indians away. He had a strong force of brave and patriotic soldiers. He met the the Indians in battle and was defeated in September of that year. A year later General St. Clair, having raised an army of over two thousand soldiers marched against the Indians. November 4th, 1791, he engaged the enemy in battle and suffered a like defeat. In these two engagements more men were lost than in any battle of the Revolutionary war. It caused mourning and suffering throughout the country.

Washington then selected General Anthony Wayne and gave him command of the troops in the Northwest Territory. He raised an army of five thousand men and drilled them for service. In the summer of 1794, after some maneuvering, he found the Indians in readiness for him. They had selected an opening where a tornado had blown down the timber. This gave them an opportunity to hide behind the trees and it was more





difficult for General Wayne's troops to get through the fallen timber. But the General gave the order to charge. The soldiers had confidence in their leader. They soon drove the Indians from their ground and in less than two hours had gained the greatest victory that had been won in the Northwest. This opened the way for the treaty of Greenville which was concluded by General Wayne on August 3rd, 1795. Nearly two thirds of Ohio was then cleared of Indians and left the eastern portion of the state open to settlement.

During all these troubles with the Indians the British in Canada and the Northwest were inciting them against the Americans, and promising them protection. These troubles went on until the British met Commodore Perry on Lake Erie. There the Commodore, on September 10th, 1813, gained a great naval victory. He sent to General Harrison this significant message: "We have met the enemy and they are ours." This incident substantially closed the difficulty between the British and United States authorities. General Harrison said that the Revolutionary war was not ended till after Perry's victory.

The Indians were treated with fairness and honor both in peace and in war. But when they became the allies of the British and got within range of the frontiersman's guns they were, in time, either driven back or left lifeless upon the fields of battle. I want to assure our Eastern friends that there are no longer any of the red men lurking in our woods or roaming over the fields of our state. They have long since passed away and gone to the happy hunting grounds beyond.

During the building up of the state the pioneers endured many hardships. They lived in a new country without luxuries, or many of the necessities of life. For many years the scarcity of food was supplemented by the meats from the wild birds, and the beasts that roamed through the woods. They called the state a commonwealth, but the condition of many was that of common poverty. This was all endured with patience and fortitude both by men and by women. It was the very kind of endurance that made them strong. The story can never be told; one can only allude to their hardships. The struggles were such as to make patriots. The young were taught in schools of adversity. But whatever else they were taught, they were taught the fundamental principles of liberty and morality.

The early settlers brought with them the schools of the East and that love for knowledge which they had inherited from the





Puritans. At first the common schools were established in log cabins, under the forest trees and in the open air. These schools were taught by the women and the mothers. In these duties the patriotic mothers excelled. From their lips the bright and growing youth of the state gathered the rudiments of an education, which made them useful citizens. Their books were few but they contained the knowledge which was most adapted to the new country.

After these schools, came the Academies and Colleges. As early as 1832 the Western Reserve College was instituted at Hudson in the present county of Summit.

In the following year Oberlin College was established in the forests of Lorrain county. This pioneer school advocated and practiced the co-education of the two sexes and it has always maintained that principle, which has been adopted by many other colleges in the country. Oberlin College took an advance step in the admission of colored students into its halls of learning. In this College the seeds of abolition were early planted and it took an active part in the final liberation of the slaves in the South.

Marietta College was chartered in 1835. It is now one of the leading colleges of the state.

Other colleges have been instituted throughout the state, until it is one of the greatest college states in the Union. Its students occupy high and honorable positions in all the walks of life. Every learned profession throughout the land is represented by those who have been educated in the colleges of Ohio.

We have a good Common School System. Every youth has an opportunity for an education at the expense of the state. All these educational institutions are largely the growth of a New England population.

The doctrines of the Ordinance of 1787 providing that, "there shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in the said territory," sank deep into the breasts of the people of Ohio. They were among the first to advocate the abolition of slavery throughout the south. Ohio furnished one of the first underground railroads in the country. Its southern terminus was on the Ohio river and the northern on Lake Erie. There may have been others, but the one crossing our state carried many passengers to freedom. Massachusetts and New England were not more outspoken in the cause of freedom than were our own people. The people of the southern part of the state joined with



the Western Reserve in preaching liberty to all mankind. They not only preached it but they practiced what they preached.

Joshua R. Giddings and Benjamin F. Wade joined hands with John Quincy Adams and Charles Sumner in condemning slavery in the South. These men led the country in the cause of liberty. Their speeches prior to 1858 were prophetic of what was to follow in the sixties. They had much to do with moulding the country and preparing the people for the struggle which finally came. Many other Ohioans played a leading part in the agitation. It was a just cause. It finally gave us a country without a master and without a slave.

In this great drama of life Ohio played a conspicuous part. She contributed 320,000 soldiers who did valiant service. This was one-tenth of all the soldiers who were enlisted. She furnished thirteen Major Generals and thirty Brigadier Generals. The most distinguished officers who led the armies to victory were born within her borders and were reared upon her farms or were residents within the State. They were born of pioneer ancestry. Grant, Sherman and Sheridan, Garfield, Hayes, and Harrison are a few of her contributions. Where can you find their superior? What single state has contributed more illustrious leaders, either in civil or military life? I will not enter upon any encomium of these men; they need none. Their deeds are written in the history of their country. They were benefactors to mankind. They belonged to the nation. They united with the generals of every other northern state and led the matchless armies to victory.

In the civil lists Ohio furnished both in state and national affairs, men of distinguished ability. Her war governors were Dennison, Todd, and Brough, the latter a native of Marietta and a man of whom the people of this city have reason to be proud. When elected in 1863 he received the then unprecedented plurality of more than 100,000 over his opponent, C. L. Valandigham. In the national councils during the war Ohio furnished as advisors to Lincoln such men as Stanton, Chase, Wade, John Sherman, and Jay Cook.

We have furnished to the nation six presidents: William Henry Harrison, Ulysses S. Grant, Rutherford B. Hayes, James A. Garfield, Benjamin Harrison, and William McKinley, all natives of Ohio except the first. They were all brave generals in war and able and distinguished citizens and officers in peace. It was given to Abraham Lincoln, a citizen of the Northwest





Territory, to strike the chains from 4,000,000 slaves, but it was left to William McKinley to carry freedom to Cuba, Porto Rica and the far off islands of the sea.

On March 4th, 1881, on the east portico of the capitol at Washington, at the inauguration of the President of the United States, there was a distinguished gathering of Ohioans. They were Rutherford B. Hayes, the retiring president; James A. Garfield, about to be inaugurated president; Morrison R. Waite, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, who administered the oath of office; John Sherman, Secretary of the Treasury; William T. Sherman, General of the army; and Philip H. Sheridan, Lieutenant General of the army and second in command. When did any other state furnish such a gathering?

My attention has recently been called to a political incident that is told of Benjamin Harrison's cabinet. Ohio had been very much in evidence in the public offices in the years before, but when Harrison was inaugurated and had selected his cabinet the country felt relieved. Instead of Ohioans he had appointed such men to his cabinet as William Windom of Minnesota, W. H. H. Miller of Indiana, John W. Noble of Missouri, Jeremiah M. Rusk of Wisconsin, and later Stephen B. Elkins of West Virginia. But on careful investigation it was found that every one of them was born in Ohio. Later Charles Foster was appointed Secretary of the Treasury, making this the strongest Ohio cabinet of all the years.

I do not name these men in a spirit of boasting. They were all too great to have their names circumscribed by state lines. They were Americans. To our Eastern friends we would say that the great names of New England create no envy in our Western homes. The names of Hancock and Otis, Adams and Webster, Phillips and Hoar are as dear to an Ohioan as to the residents of Massachusetts. These and others are as dear to us as to you. They too were Americans. We claim them as our countrymen.

Our population has grown from a few thousand in 1788 till we now have nearly four and a half million people within our state. There are now living in other states over one million people who were born in Ohio. They have gone to other sections to help build up new communities and new states. Our farming country is a garden of industry, beauty and fertility. Upon our fields are raised the products that help to feed the nation.

Our cities are hives of industry, thrift and business. In them



is accumulated untold and uncounted wealth. The residences, business blocks, and public buildings are models of architectural beauty and utility. The workshops and factories, smelters and rolling mills are conducted by the most skilled artisans, and their products are sold in the remotest parts of the world. Upon the rivers and harbors are yards where the staunchest ships are built that plow the inland lakes. In these ships are carried the grain, the minerals, and the products of every western state. They carry the grain and flour to feed New England.

We have nine thousand miles of railroads equipped with the most modern cars and locomotives. These are handled by the most skillful servants, engineers and officers.

Do you ask then, what are the products of Ohio? I will tell you. They are corn and wheat, cattle and horses, workshops and factories, ships and railroads, schools and churches, freedom and independent thought, intellect and great men. These are our products.

I have shown you how Ohio started and of what stock it commenced. The seed was excellent, and the Good Book says, "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." "By their fruits shall ye know them." But we are yet only in the beginning of Ohio. We are only a hundred years old. We are still in the morning of our life as a state,—as a nation. The Historian tells us that, "For over four thousand years Damascus has been a spectator of the events of the World. She takes note of time not by months and years, but by the kingdoms and empires she has seen rise, flourish, and pass away." If then we compare the age of our beloved state with that of the eastern countries, she is only in her youth. But if her maturity and old age shall be as prosperous and honorable as her youth, she will ever be a bright and shining star in the family of states.

After a duet, "Silent Night," by Mrs. Emerson H. Brush and Miss Muriel Palmer, which was much appreciated by the audience, the morning session adjourned until two o'clock.

### WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

At the opening of the business meeting at two o'clock, Mr. James W. Nye, who had taken charge of the exercises of the morning session, called upon Hon. David J. Nye of Elyria,





Ohio, vice-president of the Association, to take the chair and to preside at all the future meetings.

Judge Nye, upon assuming the position, thanked the Chairman, in behalf of the Association, for his courtesy and efficiency in presiding at the morning meeting. He also expressed his regrets for the absence of the President.

There were but few present, for, through some misunderstanding many thought only members of the executive committee were called, so it was voted that the reports of the Secretary and Treasurer, as well as the report from the Chairman of the Memorial Building Committee, be postponed until the next morning.

The Chairman asked the committee appointed to decide what action should be taken in regard to publishing the Nye Genealogy, if they were ready to report. As the chairman of that committee, Mr. George H. Nye of Auburn, N. Y., was absent, the Secretary was asked by the presiding officer to read a letter on the subject, addressed by him to Hon. David J. Nye, who with Mr. Henry A. Belcher of Randolph, Mass., constituted the members on that committee.

Mrs. Henry A. Belcher said that as the Association last year accepted as a gift this Genealogical manuscript from Mr. George H. Nye, something should be done with it.

After some discussion the report of this committee was postponed until the next morning.

The next in order was the election of officers for the ensuing year. As it had been customary at the former gatherings to appoint a committee of three to report a list of names for officers at some subsequent business meeting, it was voted that the Chair appoint this committee.

It was also voted that the Chair appoint a committee of two on Memorials and Resolutions, to report at the next business meeting.

The Secretary read a telegram received from the President,





which Mr. James W. Nye moved should be spread upon the minutes of the Association. It read as follows:—

TO MRS. S. CURTIS SMITH,

Secretary of the Nye Family Association,

Thanking my kindred for their sympathy which fully repays all my past efforts towards the identification of our widely scattered family, let me express the wish that an interest in these reunions may grow until all take an equal concern in their recurrence.

GEORGE H. NYE, Auburn, N. Y.

August 16, 1905.

The Chair announced the following committees.

#### COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS

MR. HENRY A. BELCHER, Randolph, Mass.

MR. JAMES W. NYE, Marietta, Ohio.

MR. HAROLD B. NYE, Cleveland, Ohio.

#### COMMITTEE ON MEMORIALS AND RESOLUTIONS

MRS. J. R. HOLWAY, Sandwich, Mass.

MR. IRVING DREW, Portsmouth, Ohio.

Upon motion of Mr. William L. Nye of Sandwich, Mass., the meeting was adjourned to nine o'clock the next morning.

#### GARDEN TEA

The main object in holding a meeting of the Nye Family Association at Marietta, more central than Sandwich, was to bring about a more intimate acquaintance among the members of the scattered branches of the Benjamin Nye Family. To this end the local chairman arranged social gatherings for each evening during the three days' attendance.

The first of these was on Wednesday the sixteenth, at the home of Mr. James W. Nye. There, in the later hours of a perfect August afternoon, Mr. Nye with his sisters, Mrs. Sarah N. Lovell, Mrs. Maria N. Buell and Miss Mary C. Nye, and his



daughters, Miss Kathrine P. Nye and Miss Rebekah D. Nye, welcomed all of the Nye connection, not forgetting the children of all ages. The company passed delightful hours on the lawn where a bounteous collation was served.

All who assembled there were Nyes by birth or by marriage. Many of these had never before met face to face, but a feeling of kinship seemed to be awakened and the cordial hospitality of the host and hostesses, together with the genial environment under the shade of the cherry trees, warmed the hearts and brought all into touch with the occasion and with one another.

#### THURSDAY MORNING

The photographs which Mrs. Henry A. Belcher of Randolph, Mass., had on exhibition at the church, of the old Nye homes at Sandwich, Mass., attracted much attention. There was one of the earliest churches, the humble reed-thatched parsonage, the house where Benjamin Nye and Katherine Tupper were married in 1640, still in good preservation, and many others of great interest.

At nine o'clock many members of the family gathered in front of the church to have a photograph taken. The picture proved to be a satisfactory one. Mrs. F. J. Cutter of Marietta, who had generously rendered valuable service to the Nye Family throughout the convention, was asked to permit them to add to their obligation to her by forwarding the photographs to those who had subscribed for them, which she kindly consented to do.

The meeting was opened with an organ prelude by Miss Flora Mason. Rev. Elmer I. Nye of Georgia, Vt., offered a prayer. After announcements by the President, Mr. William L. Nye, Chairman of the Executive Board, moved a suspension of the rules that an amendment might be made to the Third Article of the Constitution, which reads: The officers of the Association shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and





an Executive Committee, substituting for the same, that the officers of the Association be a President, a First-Vice-President, a Secretary, an Assistant Secretary, a Treasurer and a Vice-President from each State and Territory, having a membership in said Association. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Association and to perform such other duties as are usually performed by such officer. In the absence of the President, the First Vice President shall perform the duties of the President. In the absence of the President and the First Vice-President, the oldest Vice-President, present, shall preside.

Telegrams of greeting were read from Mr. and Mrs. Augustus S. Nye of Boston, and from Mr. and Mrs. William L. Nye of Lee, Mass.

The Secretary's report was read and accepted. It was as follows :

**MR. PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE NYE FAMILY ASSOCIATION :**

It was voted at our last Reunion in Sandwich, Mass., to accept the very cordial and hospitable invitation of our relatives in Marietta to meet with them this year.

It was very proper that the First and Second gatherings of our family should be held in Sandwich, for in that old historic town by the sea, was established the first Nye Family in America.

In that Nye home were reared noble sons and daughters whose numerous descendants are now to be found in nearly every State of our Union and some members of our family have set up their "household gods" on foreign shores. But it is equally as proper and very agreeable to hold our Third Reunion here in Ohio.

All cannot go to Sandwich. It is but fair that those living in the East and the far West meet with the descendants of the pioneer members of this branch of our family, who so long ago pushed forward into the great West with the same brave and



indomitable spirit that had controlled their ancestors, who founded their homes on the wild New England coast in the early part of the Seventeenth Century. Here in the Ohio Valley they established their homes and reared their families amid the perils and privations attending the early settlers of the East.

It is a pleasure to have the opportunity to meet so many members of our family we otherwise should not see. It is the desire of our Association to make these Reunions occasions of profit and pleasure; to bind together in most fraternal and cordial relationship the various branches of our family.

The Report of the last Reunion is incorporated in the printed proceedings and has been read by many in attendance, yet if it be the desire of this meeting that I read the Secretary's Report, I shall proceed to do so.

At this point the Association voted to dispense with the reading of the report. The Secretary proceeded to say:—

To those of you who have not enjoyed the privilege of reading it, let me say, that by your vote, you have missed hearing a very fine report written by our former Secretary, Mrs. Henry A. Belcher of Randolph, Mass. I have a number of the books containing the report with me, which I shall be glad to have you purchase, either of our Treasurer or of me, and you will not only get the report but each paper that was read and all the addresses given in full, any one of which is worth the price of the book. I can substantiate this statement by numerous letters received from those who have read it.

In December, I sent out nine hundred postal cards, announcing its publication, as well as the fact that there were for sale a few books left of the Second Edition of the Report of the First Reunion. I think every member of the Nye Family should have both books, not only for the pleasure and profit derived but also to help our Association along. If we vote to publish a book of this kind, we should be interested to buy it.

Through the generosity of Mrs. Emerson H. Brush of Chicago, the Association at our last Reunion was presented with about two hundred copies of an old Welsh Ballad, named "Owen," which she, having written from memory and set to music, published and dedicated to the Nye Family of America.



It was sung by Minerva Tupper, daughter of Gen. Benjamin Tupper of Revolutionary fame, who married Col. Ichabod Nye in 1785. This quaint and beautiful ballad, which has been handed down in Mrs. Brush's family, as the Indian legends are, from generation to generation, was sung by her at our Reunion to the delight and pleasure of all. I have sold a good many copies. Of those unsold belonging to our Association I have brought along some of them with me. I hope all of you who have not already purchased, will do so, as this will add to our funds. The ballad is a pleasant reminder of the songs of "ye olden time," which are so attractive to us all and it will be a good souvenir to take to your homes.

In February, at a Board meeting, held in Boston, the date of this Reunion was fixed, subject to the approval of the chairman, Mr. James W. Nye of Marietta, who had previously been appointed with power to arrange with committees of his own choice—all local matters, including program, receptions, lodgings, etc. How very admirably this work has been done, the guests of our Ohio relatives can attest.

Now one word about the size of our Association. We place no limit to the numbers, as in many Clubs. All the Nyes are welcome who can trace descent from Benjamin Nye, who settled in Sandwich, Mass., in 1637. The wife or the husband, the widow or the widower of such descendant, may become a member by the payment of one dollar per year—you will admit most liberal terms are accorded, for you see, not only the lineal descendants but their partners are included. I should think all in attendance, as well as all who are eligible, throughout our country, would be both proud and happy to avail themselves of this privilege. If all the Nye descendants joined that I correspond with, and I have reached only one member of each family, in most cases, we should have funds sufficient to carry on our Association in a very able and profitable manner. If all the descendants of Benjamin Nye joined, we should have a goodly sum to erect and perpetuate a fitting memorial to our common ancestors, Benjamin Nye and his good wife, Katherine Tupper.

I have faith in the Nyes. We shall find them loyal, earnest and willing, when sufficient attention has been called to the aim and the needs of this organization.





A lady wrote me, that she believed her family to be the only one of that name, until she received a notice of the First Nye Reunion. Only last month I had a letter from a New Englander, saying in response to my circular letter, he had never before heard of a Nye Reunion. He expressed his gratitude for receiving information, ordered two books, and he and his wife came to Marietta with us. Our family is widely scattered over our country. Our officers have to consult and advise thorough correspondence for the most part and to keep the interest and attention of the members of our family, in affairs of our Association, we should send out as many as three or four circular letters during the year. Each is attended with considerable expense. As we must depend upon the yearly dues to furnish funds to carry on our work this is one reason for my urging an increase of membership. As there are about eight times as many names on my mailing list as there are on our Treasurer's list, it shows to you conclusively, that there is no chance for any Equitable Assurance business here. The officers and attorneys are not looking for large salaries—our surplus is not extravagant—we hope to come out even.

Therefore I urge all in Convention to join the Association this year. Our Treasurer is present and ready to receive the dues and will give you a card of membership. I call the attention of all members of the Nye Family, wherever they may live, to join. If not able to attend the Reunions, all the more reason for joining, for you can learn about your kith and kin, the country over.

On the twenty-third of June, I posted thirteen hundred circulars to members of our family, announcing this Reunion. My mailing list had been augmented by several hundred names during the year, principally by our President, Mr. George H. Nye, who has done so much to gather genealogical data of the Nye Family, at great expense to himself. At our last Reunion, Mr. Nye presented to our Association all his valuable manuscripts and has made it possible for the Nyes to have a complete genealogical record. Its publication has been assigned to a competent committee.



If the records of the proceedings of this Reunion are to be published let me suggest that orders for the book be sent to the Secretary at an early date, and give a reasonable time to the committee to prepare the book. The importunate demand of the printer to return all proof-sheets by the next mail, on the one hand, and the numerous letters from members of the family that the books be sent to them before Christmas, on the other hand, your Secretary was extremely anxious lest some errors be made; for after collecting the material for the book and after waiting for the terms of several publishing houses, there was only a brief time for the work of revision. Some errors did occur, but I endeavored to correct such, as soon as my attention was called to them—I regret to say that the name of Mr. Henry A. Belcher of Randolph, Mass., was omitted from the list of Executive Officers and not noticed until after many of the books had been sent out. He has never alluded to this omission, but I feel his earnestness and helpfulness from first to last deserve our full recognition.

I have answered three hundred letters, sent out twelve hundred postal cards, thirteen hundred circulars besides over seven hundred notices regarding railroad rates to those living in localities affected by the same.

It has been a great pleasure to correspond with so many of our family. When I have not been able to answer questions regarding the intricacies of ancestral lore, I have taken the liberty to refer to Mr. Robert W. Thompson of Middletown, Conn., who has always been our willing and helpful friend. He has been of valuable assistance to many in establishing their descent from Benjamin the first.

In performing the duties of Secretary of our Association, the brevity of my family name has appealed to me.—I congratulated myself that I had not descended from some Russian ancestor with a long patronymic instead of from one bearing the unique name of ‘Nye.’

It may interest you to know that the brevity of the word has been appreciated by the Post Office Department at Washington. The postmaster of Nye, Oklahoma, wrote me that eleven years ago, when his mother was appointed postmistress, she was ask-





ed to send to the Department a list of names from which a choice might be made. After she had selected twenty, she asked him for one. He adds,—“As I was reading at that time Bill Nye’s humorous stories, which interested me very much, I replied, ‘Try Nye,’ it is short and familiar. My mother added it and the Department selected it from her list.”

For the same reason the postmaster of Nye, West Va., says that office derived its name.

The postmaster of Nye, Wisconsin, assures me that the popularity of Frank Nye of Minneapolis was responsible for the name of that office; but the old settlers claim that Bill Nye, brother of Frank Nye, once lived on the banks of a lake near by and the village was named in his honor.

While with joy and gladness we sojourn with our kindred in this early pioneer home and enjoy the reunion of old friends and the acquaintance of new ones, we miss sadly the genial and affectionate wife of our President, who was the light and joy of our former Reunions. We have been called, also, to mourn the loss of other valuable members.

It is commonly known, that two instruments tuned to the same key and placed sufficiently near each other are in such harmony that when one is struck, the corresponding key in the other vibrates in unison.

Our family is harmonious and sympathetic and each and every one of us feel the deepest sympathy for all of the members of our family who have suffered bereavement since our last Reunion.

Respectfully submitted,

MRS. S. CURTIS SMITH,

Secretary.

The Secretary’s report was accepted.

The motion of Mr. Robert W. Thompson to the effect that Mrs. J. R. Holway of Sandwich act as Treasurer during the Convention in absence of Mrs. Annie Nye Smith, Treasurer, was carried.

The Treasurer’s report was read and approved.



Amount on hand . . . . .	\$126.03	
Total receipts for the year . . . . .	334.97	\$461.00
Total expenses for the year . . . . .		390.01

---

On hand August 15, 1905 . . . . . \$ 70.99

The President then introduced Mrs. Henry A. Belcher of Randolph, Mass., chairman of the Committee on the Memorial Building, as the one who had done more than any other person in organizing the members of the Nye family. Mrs. Belcher's report was as follows:

**MR. PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE NYE FAMILY:**

Last year in my report as secretary of this Association, it was suggested that we as a family erect in Sandwich a Memorial building, to be used partly as a public library and also an archive for the safe deposit of the documents of our family history. It was voted that I should be a committee of one, with power to enlarge the committee to carry out the suggestion.

Hon. David J. Nye of Elyria, Ohio, and Mrs. Horace K. Nye of Fairhaven, Mass., were added to that committee, but we did not organize. I have written many letters asking for financial aid to carry on the work, but have not met with a satisfactory response. I have given the matter much thought during the past year, and have come to the conclusion, that it is not feasible to build such a Memorial Library Building unless we could endow it. I am very certain that the town could not maintain it.

It seems fitting that we, as an Association, should erect a memorial to the memory of our ancestor. If we cannot build a memorial building, let us place a memorial stone in the Old Burying Ground, or some other suitable place, to Benjamin Nye and his wife Katharine, who were the founders of our family, and who with the settlers of the Plymouth Colony were largely instrumental in making the America which we inherit today. At the three reunions we have held, we have opened the pages of our family history, and have learned of the lives and actions of our ancestors. Honesty and integrity are among the characteristics of our family. And this alone should create in us a



glorious pride in our birthright. Let us then erect to their memory a monument showing that we are grateful for their lives and deeds.

And it would be my wish that when we gather again around the family tree at Sandwich, that the most important meeting will be the dedication of a memorial stone, in memory of Benjamin Nye and his wife Katharine Tupper.

Respectfully submitted,

HANNAH B. NYE BELCHER,  
Chairman of Committee.

The President suggested that it might be well in connection with this report to appoint a committee to act in reference to carrying forward the work of erecting a monument.

The report was accepted and the suggestion of the President was acted upon and it was unanimously voted to refer the matter back to the same committee.

The report of the Committee upon Genealogical Manuscript was called for, and the chairman of that committee, Mr. George H. Nye of Auburn, N. Y., not being present, Mr. Henry A. Belcher of Randolph, a member of that committee, reported that he had made inquiries in regard to expense of publishing such a work but was of the opinion the Committee should ask for more time and report at some future meeting. A motion was made by Mr. Belcher to this effect and seconded by Mr. James W. Nye and unanimously carried.

Mrs. J. R. Holway of Sandwich, Chairman of the Committee on Memorials and Resolutions, responded as follows:

The Nye Family of America holding their third reunion at Marietta, Ohio, desiring to express their sympathy for those of their kindred who have suffered bereavement during the year, passed the following Resolutions:

WHEREAS, Our Father has taken to her Heavenly Home Mrs. George H. Nye of Auburn, N. Y., the beloved wife of our President and the dear mother of his children;





WHEREAS, the family of Mrs. Nannie Nye Jackson of Newark, N. J., is called to mourn the loss of a faithful and loving mother;  
WHEREAS, the Association misses Mr. Daniel H. Huxford of Randolph, Mass., who was one of its most earnest workers;  
WHEREAS, Mr. E. Bourne Nye, closely identified with the history of Sandwich, Mass., has passed away, leaving wife and children to mourn his loss;  
WHEREAS, Miss Ida Hamblin of Sandwich, Mass., whose cheerful face and hearty welcome were an inspiration, has been called from her life of usefulness;  
WHEREAS, Dr. Fremont Nye of Westerly, R. I., has been bereft of his loving companion;  
WHEREAS, Mrs. Mary Nye Fisher of Walpole, Mass., mourns for her husband, whose pleasant greetings and kindly face at our former reunions still linger in our memory;  
WHEREAS, Mr. Thomas Nye of Fairhaven, Mass., the intrepid sailor of many seas, has sailed into the Heavenly Port;  
WHEREAS, Mrs. Sarah Nye Wesson of Sandwich, Mass., has met with a great loss in the death of her two sisters, Mrs. Nancy Nye De Normandie of Danvers, Mass., and Mrs. Charlotte Nye Hobbs of Bridgeport, Conn., who have been called to their reward after long lives filled with kind deeds and loving service; therefore,

*Resolved*, that we express to each and all who have been bereft our heartfelt sympathy and pray that God, who doeth all things well, may send comfort into their lives and make them feel that each loss is but one more link that binds us to the beautiful home where everlasting spring abides and where we shall be welcomed into the Eternal Reunion of all the loved ones who have gone before.

MRS. JEROME R. HOLWAY,  
MR. IRVING DREW,  
Committee on Resolutions.

Mr. James W. Nye moved that a copy of the above be sent to each bereaved family, as well as spread upon the records of the Association; it was carried.

The Secretary read the following letter from Mr. Charles H. Nye of Hyannis, Mass.



TO THE KINDRED AND FRIENDS OF THE NYE FAMILY ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA, MARIETTA, OHIO. GREETINGS:

Another year has rolled away, and our worthy Secretary has again called us to a reunion of the "Nyes of America."

Since we last met, the year has brought many changes. While we miss the gracious presence, and kindly greeting, of some who have been with us in other years, I am very glad there are those of our kindred who still maintain an interest in our organization, and I hope each reunion will serve to strengthen the bond between us.

Many of our members are well advanced in years, and must soon change from this scene of action to another life—and it is my most earnest wish and desire of my heart, that as long as we remain here, and are able, we may continue to sustain our interest, retain our enthusiasm, and continue our reunions.

May we keep our ancestors, 'Benjamin and Katharine,' in grateful remembrance, and never forget from them we inherit the name we are proud to honor.

While today all may not appreciate the full value of such an organization, in years to come it will be valued more and more, and may many of our descendants enjoy the reunions of the different branches of the "Nye family."

While I regret exceedingly I shall not be able to attend in person, in spirit I shall be with you.

I wish the reunion a success, and may God be with us, while we are here, and the blessing of Heaven ever rest upon you all, in the future, is the wish of yours truly,

CHARLES H. NYE.

Hyannis, Mass., Aug. 9, 1905.

Mrs. Belcher moved that a telegram of Greetings be sent to Mr. Nye. He had done a great deal, she said, to advance the interests of the organization and is deeply interested in its welfare; unanimously carried.

The Secretary read a letter of greeting from Mr. Andrew A. Nye of North Sewickley, Pa., secretary of the Nye Family of Pennsylvania, which organization cannot identify itself with any branch of the Benjamin Nye Family.





Letters of regret were received from the following:

Mrs. Orrie Nye Abbott . . . . .	Chicago, Ill.
Mrs. William Bampfield . . . . .	Kingston, Ontario.
Mrs. Josie E. Barker . . . . .	Natick, Mass.
Mrs. George S. Butters . . . . .	Newton, Mass.
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Crocker. . . . .	Hyannis, Mass.
Mrs. P. C. Eastman . . . . .	Rock, Mass.
Mrs. Addie R. Gibbs . . . . .	Cincinnati, Ohio.
Mrs. Fred Houghton . . . . .	North Anson, Maine.
Mrs. M. P. Jenkins . . . . .	Roxbury, Mass.
Mrs. Helen A. Nye . . . . .	North Falmouth, Mass.
Mrs. Horace K. Nye . . . . .	Fairhaven, Mass.
Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Nye . . . . .	Auburn, Maine.
Mr. and Mrs. Samuel A. Nye . . . . .	Acworth, N. H.
Mr. Frank M. Nye . . . . .	Minneapolis, Minn.
Mr. Fred A. Nye . . . . .	Kearney, Neb.
Miss Alberta Nye . . . . .	Boston, Mass.
Mr. Ralph Nye . . . . .	Boston, Mass.
Miss Nellie M. Nye . . . . .	Milford, Mass.
Dr. George L. Nye . . . . .	Wytheville, Va.
Rev. C. L. Nye . . . . .	Des Moines, Ia.
Mr. George H. Nye . . . . .	Auburn, N. Y.
Mrs. Julia Nye Reed . . . . .	Erie, Pa.
Mr. M. M. Nye . . . . .	Crawfordville, Ind.
Mrs. Jane E. Nye Smith . . . . .	North Amherst, Mass.
Mr. George H. Tripp . . . . .	New Bedford, Mass.
Mr. L. G. Nye (88 years old) . . . . .	Trumbull, Ohio.
Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell Wing . . . . .	Newton, Mass.

After announcing the next business meeting for three o'clock the following day, the President introduced Mr. William L. Nye of Sandwich, Mass., the first President of the Association, who read the following interesting paper upon Sandwich:

#### MR. PRESIDENT,

#### AND MEMBERS OF THE NYE FAMILY OF AMERICA.

It gives me great pleasure to meet with you again, and participate with you in the third reunion of the Nye family. I bring you greetings from the home of your ancestor: a home made



sacred by the trials and privations that attended them every step through that then wilderness.

In the southeast corner of Massachusetts, a peninsular extends far out into the ocean, that orators from time to time (and justly too) have called the right arm of the Commonwealth. We are satisfied with plain Cape Cod. The first town on the Cape is called Sandwich. In the background of the picture of this beautiful old town, are the hills, thickly covered with forests of oak and pine, with their green foliage waving in the sun. In the front the waters of Cape Cod Bay wash its shores—at times calm and peaceful, again in storm and tempest, the thunder of the angry waves may be heard for miles, as they toss and break upon its sandy shore.

Instead of being a low barren waste, as many have imagined, the hills are thickly dotted with boulders and granite ledges. Here have been, and are still, fertile fields. The grass grows green, and wild flowers of every description bloom in the forests on hillside and valley, beautifying the whole landscape.

It is of this old town that I have been asked to speak, the home of those whose names will ever be cherished by the members of the family: Benjamin Nye and Katharine Tupper.

I have spoken of the flowers that decorate the highways, woods and fields. The old English flowers found here, such as Holly, Canterbury Bells, Lilacs, Aarons Rod, Box, Bouncing Betty and Pilgrim Rose, were brought and planted by the Pilgrims, or their wives, and have ever remained a popular flower by the housewife. It is claimed that the sea has brought us more flower seed than ever the May Flower or her sister ships, since the landing at Plymouth. The native flower is the May Flower, or the Trailing Arbutus. Although found in other places, to the typical Cape Codder there is no other flower so sweet as his own May Flower; blooming early in spring, hardly waiting for the snow and ice to melt away, before it begins to open its petals.

The area of the town of Sandwich today is 20,950 acres. A few small rivers wind their way along through upland and marsh, until lost in the bosom of old ocean.

The ponds here are numerous, and have quaint names: Peters, 176 acres; Spectacle, 157 acres; Triangle, 84 acres; Snake, 76 acres; Lawrence, 76 acres; and many other smaller ones. The Old Mill pond, a beautiful sheet of water in the very centre of the village, has 47 acres. These ponds are the fisherman's heaven, for here





are found many species of the finny tribe. Only two of these ponds have any visible outlet.

When the May Flower landed at Plymouth in 1620, Sandwich, then called Shaume, was the home of the red man. It would seem that they cultivated the soil to a considerable extent, for when the Pilgrims visited the settlement of Pamet, they found 50 acres of corn under cultivation. The labor of tilling the soil was done by the squaws, for no brave ever demeaned himself with manual labor. Where they came from is not known. The tribes that were in and around Sandwich were the Skanton, Manomet, Cataumets, Pokeset, Shaume and Mashpee, the last being more numerous and the last to disappear. The tribes were very friendly to the settlers, as was shown in many acts of kindness.

In the war of 1674 with King Phillip, the Indians remained neutral, and were considered a defense to Sandwich and other Cape towns. In fact no Cape tribe ever joined Phillip, but many of the Indians fought with the settlers against him. In 1798 but a remnant of them remained, they were the tribe of Mashpee. They disappeared before the march of civilization. They hunted these woods, fished the ponds and brooks, and their canoes floated on the waters of the bay. Their lives were filled with romance and legend. Their beautiful legends yet linger in the written pages of the white man's lore. As the fog creeps up from Vineyard Sound, who can forget their explanation of the phenomenon?

The Mattachesetts idea was that a great many moons ago a bird of monstrous size visited the south shore of the Cape, carrying off papooses and even the larger children to the southward.

An Indian giant named Maushop, residing in those parts, in his rage at the havoc, pursued the bird, wading across the sound to a hitherto unknown island, where he found the bones of children in heaps around the trunk and under the shade of a great tree. Wishing to smoke on his way back, and finding he had no tobacco, he filled his pipe with poke, a weed used afterwards by the Indians when tobacco failed,—and started across the sound to his home. From this memorable event, the frequent fogs in Nantucket, and on and around Vineyard Sound came; and when the Indians saw a fog arising they would say in their own tongue, "There Comes old Maushop's Smoke."

On April 3, 1637, it was agreed by the Court at Plymouth





that ten men of Sangus, Edmund Freeman, Henry Feake, Thomas Dexter, Edward Dillingham, William Wood, John Car-men, Richard Chadwell, William Almy, Thomas Tupper and George Knott shall have liberty to view a place to set down, and have sufficient lands for three score families, upon the conditions, propounded to them by the Governor and Mr. Winslow. In the same year fifty more families came to Sandwich, and with them Benjamin Nye. With this begins the White Man's history of Sandwich. In imagination we can see them as they, with their families, wended their way through a wild country to their future homes. No roads or highways, they followed the narrow trail of the Indian, resting by the way while the little ones played and prattled while they plucked the wild flow-ees from their mossy beds. They were men of giant wills, ready to meet the trials and hardships they knew awaited them in the land they had adopted for their homes.

It is true, at this time Plymouth had been settled for seventeen years, and the settlers of Sandwich were able to procure the necessaries of life, from that settlement; as Plymouth was trading now largely with the Dutch as well as the Mother Country: still their privations were many, and toil they must from the rising of the sun to the going down thereof.

In 1639 the town was incorporated: but the Indians were not paid for their land until 1647. The record says that Mr. Bradford purchased Sandwich of the Indians, January 24, 1647, paying for the same sixteen pounds and nineteen shillings. The same year Mr. Bradford sold the same for the same price to Edmund Freeman, who acted as agent for the town. Mr. Freeman received seventeen pounds for his services. So the town of Sandwich cost thirty-three pounds nineteen shillings.

From this time the town began to thrive and increase in population. Also at this time there appears a lack on the part of the Sandwich Authorities to attend to their duties in a manner pleasing to the Plymouth Court. Persons were coming into the town, that did not have the stamp of Dutch Discipline on them. The record reads "When as by complaint, it is very probable that divers of the Committee of Sandwich, have not faithfully discharged that trust reposed in them, by receiving into the said town divers persons, unfit for Church Society, which should have been their chief care in the first place, and have disposed of the greater part of the land there already, and to a very few that are in the Church Society, or fit for the same. So that



without speedy remedy our chiefest end will be frustrated. This is to require such of the Committee as are herein faulty to appear at the next Court of Assistance to answer this complaint: and in the meantime not to dispose of any more land there, without further orders from the Court." Sandwich seemed to have much trouble with that Plymouth Court.

In 1652 a Committee was appointed to lay out a highway, from Sandwich to Plymouth. Two years afterwards, the road not being completed, both Sandwich and Plymouth were presented at Court for not having the County Highway between these places cleared so as to be passable to man and horse.

Thus communication between the two towns became easier.

In 1655 a grant was given Thomas Dexter to provide and maintain a mill, the town to allow him five pints per bushel for toll. But Dexter's toll increased so fast, that "another mill was set up at the river, that comes out of the pond at the head of Benjamin Nye's Marsh." It is supposed that Nye was the miller, and as the record says no more about unjust tolls, we feel sure that Father Benjamin was honest and dealt justly with his fellow men.

The military history of Sandwich is very interesting. I can only lightly refer to it. That the men of this town were always patriotic, and the love of home and country strong in them, has been proven time and again.

The first call for men to take up arms was in the struggle with King Phillip in 1674. Sandwich furnished seventy-five men: all boys under sixteen years were required to join the Town Guards. In the same year a heavy war tax was levied on the town. In 1675 five men from Sandwich were killed at Rehobeth: Benjamin Nye, David Berry, Caleb Blake, Joe Gibbs and Stephen Wing. It had been supposed by many that this Benjamin Nye was the first settler Benjamin, and at the First Reunion of the Nye Family, he was buried by the speakers on the plains of Rehobeth; and many eulogies were said in praise of his patriotic death. It has since been proven, that he died at the comfortable home of his son, Johnathan, in E. Sandwich, at a ripe old age. The Benjamin, who perished on the battle field, was no doubt his son.

In the French and Indian War of 1600 Sandwich furnished fourteen men.

The causes that led to the War of the Revolution are well known by all. In the acts of the Colony in opposing the claim





of Great Britain, the people of Sandwich were most daring. In September, 1774, the residents of Sandwich, joined by others, marched to Barnstable to intercept the sitting of the Court of Common Pleas.

This was not only accomplished, but they obtained the names of the judges to a promise, that they would not accept of any duties, in conformity with the unjust acts of Parliament, and if required to do any business contrary to the charter of the Province, they would refuse.

It is said, this uprising of the citizens of Sandwich was one of the first overt acts of the Colony, and was followed by requests to military officers to resign their commissions, held under an authority, which would, if it could, reduce them to slavery and obedience. Among the names of these bold leaders were Stephen Joseph, Jr., Ebenezer and Lot Nye. The writer says many bold deeds were performed in the struggle that followed, which are—and ever will be—unrecorded, for no historian can give the people of the Cape their full mete of praise. From the year 1775, when the din of the first battle was heard, the suffering and privations of the people of Sandwich were very great.

In 1776, 250 men were furnished by the county, of which Sandwich gave her share. Again the same year Sandwich sent forty men. On the 10th of July one from every twenty-five men liable for military duty was taken. The men were ordered to Rhode Island, and Joseph Nye and others were appointed to purchase sixty whale boats for their transportation.

The year 1777 opened with with more hardships to the people of the Cape. The fishing vessels were rotting at their wharves. Traffic was gone. The farmers might plant, but perhaps the next draft might not leave them to harvest. The brutality of the Prison Ships was felt more by the citizens of the Cape than any other county, for a large part of her men were in the naval service. This year, 1777, the General Court resolved to draft every seventh man in the Colony, and make the draft from all over sixteen, at home and abroad.

In 1778 eight men were required, besides fifty pairs each of shirts, shoes and stockings. The penalty for refusing was thirty pounds.

In 1780 two more demands for men were made, besides 11,120 lbs. Beef. The town was now nearly depleted of men. I have said enough to show you what the trials and suffering of a patriotic country loving people must have been. Think of the brave



women who gave their all to their country,—husbands, fathers, brothers, sons and sweethearts. They were women for the times, tried and not found wanting. One mother said: "None of my children but Abiah is with me. All my sons are living with the army. I am afraid what I may hear concerning my sons. I hope I may be prepared, let it be what it will." Oh! such a faith! A faith that can say amid the darkest trials "Thy will be done."

War was again declared by President Madison against England, June 17, 1812, and lasted until December 24, 1814. In this war, which was brought to our very doors, the men of Sandwich took a prominent part. The whole Cape was patrolled by the British vessels, but in spite of them the hardy sons managed to smuggle in many of the necessities of life. The inhabitants lived in constant fear. Some towns were bombarded, but Sandwich escaped. Few enlisted into the general service, for all were needed for home protection. Sandwich was the highway by which contraband goods were taken across the Cape to Buzzards Bay.

Hemmed in on all sides their hardships were many, but now, as before, that determined will saved them in the hour of trouble, and their faith in God was not shaken. During the last year of the war flour sold for \$18.00 per barrel, and corn for \$2.50 per bushel. On account of the embargo, it was impossible for vessels to arrive from the West Indies. Consequently molasses and sugar were very scarce. It is said that women improvised a kind of molasses from corn-stalks and pumpkins. The Privateersman and Navy were manned by the hardy fishermen and sailors, and how well they performed their dangerous task is well known. History has given them the honors that justly belong to them.

The War of the Rebellion, I need touch but lightly on. Its history is known by every reader and student. No town responded more quickly to the call of arms than Sandwich, for she raised the fourth of the first seven companies, enlisted in Massachusetts, within four days of the call. This Company was attached to the 29th Regiment and took part in the battles at Fair Oaks, Gaines Mill, Peach Orchard, Savage Station, Malvern Hills, Centreville, South Mountain, Antietam and Fredericksburg. She furnished 292 men for the Army, and many for the Navy. Many of them are buried on the battle fields, many where the simple tablet reads "To the Unkuown Dead." In the quiet cemetery on the hillside many an honored veteran





sleeps his last sleep. They fought the battles of their country bravely, and now fill honored graves.

They and their deeds of valor will never be forgotten by a grateful people.

Each year a little band whose ranks are steadily decreasing, take their way to the silent homes of the dead, and lovingly place flowers and the stars and stripes over their lowly dead.

The method of travelling and transportation in the olden times was very slow,—tedious and uncomfortable. The earliest couriers in 1627 were swift running Indians. The first express or mail on the Cape was in 1654, when the Governor paid John Smith for carrying letters from Plymouth to Nausett.

For nearly 150 years the dependence of private citizens, for the remittance of their letters, was upon such casual travelers as chance happened to throw in their way. The early method of travelling was on horseback. The first passenger coach to transport passengers was in 1790 from Plymouth to Sandwich.

Packets also ran from every port to Boston, that being the principal market for buying and selling. In the early fifties a steamer called the "Acorn" plied between Boston and Sandwich.

The stage coach and packet have become a thing of the past and the iron horse has full control of the way—and none regret the change. Yet we cannot help looking back and remembering with what joy we watched the old Yellow Stage and Four, as it rolled into the village, the driver cracking his whip to make all the demonstration possible; or, climbing the hills and gazing across the waters to see if the packet was rounding Old Manomet Point, and almost sigh as we say, "They were good old times." So they were, but we must remember them as the good old times of the past.

Let us return again to the days of our ancestors and review some of the laws and customs of that time. And let me say here, I have found nowhere an instance, where our worthy ancestor was ever presented to the Court for any misdemeanor. Should you take the time to scan the records you will find that the men of that day were not all saints, nor the women all angels. They were folk like as we are.

The laws of Church and State were very rigid, though I do not think they were enforced as strictly here, as in other parts of the Colony. They were generally true to their belief. It is true Church-going was compulsory. Still I believe it was the principal within that caused them to wend their way on the Sabbath to the humble meeting-house.





The first meeting-house was a simple affair. A mud-thatched building, oiled paper windows, with shutters to the same. The second church was a more commodious building. In this were the large square pews, with seats all around to accommodate the large families. The men and women sat separately. There were seats for aged men and aged women. There were separate seats for the Indians, then the Negroes, and last the Mulattoes.

This old meeting-house was a solemn place. He who entered there, must enter with a solemn mien, and eyes cast heavenward. No levity was allowed within its sacred walls.

Mordicai Ellis and Joshua Fish were appointed to take care of the young people, who were often very rude on the Lord's Day, and when any do offend return them to a Justice of Peace, to be dealt with according to law. In 1761 two young misses were fined for laughing in church. To this old meeting house your ancestors came. Young and old—in sunshine or storm—heat or cold, for here were told them the things they thought pertained to their eternal good. They believed in God. They believed He was in all and through all. Did Prosperity shine, they saw a smiling Providence. Did adversity frown, it was the hand of Jehovah laid heavily upon them: and they meekly bowed to His will. Their God was an ever-ruling One, and their faith in Him steadfast.

The dwelling-houses depended on the wealth of the owners. The homes of the poorer class were small, with one room, the fire place in the middle, and the oven built out of doors, except when the house was built into the bank. They had few windows and few doors. The sill was laid on the ground, which projected into the room all around, and served as a seat for the children, as they had little furniture.

Parson Leveridge lived substantially in an unpartitioned barn. As the town flourished better homes were built.

In 1642 one of the better homes was twenty-two feet front, twenty feet rear. Front room sixteen feet square. The fire-place was eight feet wide, four feet deep, five and a half feet high. There was no plastering until after 1700: clay was used instead.

The Puritans came to this country that they might worship God according to the dictates of their own conscience. Yet they were not willing to allow the same privilege to those who came among them, who differed from them. The Quakers made their appearance in Sandwich in 1637, and through their teaching many were drawn from the Mother Church. Yet while the Plymouth Authorities persecuted them, the Sandwich people



were inclined to protect them. They refused to whip them when so ordered. Sandwich has been called the Cradle of Religious Liberty. The laws against the Quakers were very strict. If any one entertained a Quaker for fifteen minutes, he was fined. Or if one saw a Quaker and did not report him, he was punished. If there was a Quaker meeting in any man's house, he was fined forty shillings, the Preacher forty shillings and every hearer forty shillings, though not a word was spoken.

Notwithstanding this the Quakers held their meetings, and were shielded by the Sandwich authorities as much as possible.

Law in the town was as strict with the members of the Pilgrim Church. Men were fined for not ringing their swine's snouts: for over drinking. Yet August 20, 1644, Robert Boat Fish was licensed to draw wine: and when he was away any time, it shall be lawful for William Newman, to sell wine to persons for their need. There was a fine of twelve shillings for a man smoking on the highway; thirty shillings for Sabbath breaking and sit one hour in the stocks; working on Sunday, whipped; selling beer for two pence worth only one, fined. Elizabeth Eddy was presented to the Court for laboring, that is to say, wringing and hanging out clothes on the Lord's Day, during Public Exercises. There were stocks and whipping posts to stop thieving, to keep a scold's tongue quiet, a lazy fellow from the work house, and a mean man from beating his wife.

I would not have you think there was no brighter side to the Pilgrim life. They had their joys and pleasures the same as we. We honor their memory, and feel that the example of patience and endurance they manifested, has had its influence on the generations that have come and gone.

Manufacturing has always been carried on to some extent in the town. In 1812 a cotton mill was established at the head of the old Mill Pond, which was afterwards used as a tack factory. The Boston and Sandwich Glass Co., the largest in the country, was established in 1825. During the years 1861 to 1864 the amount of business done was \$300,000.00 a year, and employed 500 hands. Other small manufactories have existed from time to time. Today there are only five small factories in the village. The inhabitants number today less than 1,500. There are five churches and none of these are crowded.

This, the home of the Nyes and Tuppers.

Here Benj. Nye and Katherine Tupper were the first parents to the Nyes. In your beautiful city, that honor belongs to Ich-





abod Nye and Minerva Tupper. You are proud of your ancestors. We are the same. From this old town have gone forth the sturdy sons and daughters, who have founded homes in every nook and corner of the land. Yes, they who have made the world better by their living in it.

It is said of one of your ancestors, Thomas Tupper, "That his labors were among the Indians, and that he died in old age greatly missed." Also standing where the Indian graves are many, and looking down the Cape and across your bay, then visible, a statue should be raised to Richard Bourne and Thomas Tupper (Sandwich men) to tell the travellers as they speed by its base, how the men of the Pilgrim blood will not cease to honor their own: who sacrificed themselves for their fellow-men, in all their generations.

In the old cemetery may be found the names of many of your ancestors. There are fifty-two stones to mark the last resting place of as many Nyes, and no doubt many more from whose silent beds the headstones have long since disappeared. Here, too, may be found many of the Tupper descendents.

The old Tupper House built in 1637 still stands, occupied only by the Tupper families, through the years that have intervened, until a few weeks ago, when it passed into the hands of the stranger. As I looked upon the old oaken frame of this ancient home, made hoary with the age of 218 years, still firm and strong, as when taken from the forests at its very door, it seemed emblematical of the character house, built by the early settlers, the frame work of which shall last until time shall be no more.

I stand within its walls, and visions of the past float before me. I see the Christian Missionary teaching the untutored savages, who cluster around his hearthstone. I see the fair Katherine, modest and simple in her home life. I see the sturdy youth, Benjamin, woo and win her, and hand in hand, pass out from under the roof tree, going forth to establish a home for themselves. I see shadowy forms passing by me. They are the generations who have lived and loved within these walls, and are steadily passing out through the open door, and when the last one has stepped over the well-worn threshold the door is closed. The dream is over, the stranger has indeed come to tarry.

Thus I have striven to give you a short but imperfect sketch of this ancient town. But the half has not been told. I could speak of the beauty of this country village to-day: its streets



shaded by lofty Elms, Maples and Locusts. But all this I must leave to your imagination. And when next the Family hold their reunion there, come and behold the glory of this time honored town.

Mrs. Emerson H. Brush sung an old Welsh Ballad, playing on the piano the accompaniment, which she had composed. This number was one of the most enjoyable rendered during the convention.

Mr. James W. Nye read letters of greeting from Mrs. Theodore D. Dale of Montclair, N. J. and from Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Crocker of West Barnstable, Mass.

Miss Minnie Tupper Nye of New York City read the following interesting sketch of Minerva Tupper, wife of Ichabod Nye, the pioneer, who was her grandmother.

So much has been said of the Pilgrim Fathers that it has quite overshadowed the lives and heroism of the Pilgrim mothers and it is very much the same with the Pioneer Mothers.

We will take a glimpse into the life of one of these, a worthy descendant of her Pilgrim ancestors and learn something of the experiences that tend to develop such characters.

It is just 117 years ago this week that a boat bearing a most precious freight, one destined to have an important influence not only upon the immediate region, later called Ohio, but upon the entire Northwest, was brought to anchor in the Ohio at the mouth of the Muskingum.

How kind nature has been here, the Muskingum, well called by the Indians, Elkseye, the Ohio, in the Shawnee tongue, the Beautiful, the round hills rising in successive ranges covered with the varied green of many kinds of trees, among them, the buckeye. And here the voyagers on the second Mayflower were to find a new home and based on the Ordinance of 1787, found a new empire whose influence was to encircle the world.

The Adventure Galley, the Second Mayflower consecrated in story and in song as second only to that first Mayflower to which all our hearts turn, was built by one of Marietta's Pioneers, Jonathan Devol, to bring the immortal forty-eight men of the 7th of April to Marietta.

Long, low, the typical flat boat or bateau of the times, it was ill adapted for comfort though it may have been for safety if we may judge by its few small windows.





One of the voyagers on this boat was the subject of this sketch, Minerva Nye Tupper. She was born in Chesterfield, Mass., in 1764, the daughter of General Benjamin Tupper a noted soldier of the Revolution and one of the first projectors of the Ohio Company. With her sisters, Rowena and Sophia, the twins, she went to school at Lebanon, the best school for girls of that period. And she received all the advantages of education that the times afforded. She was married in Chesterfield in 1784 to Ichabod Nye, a young soldier of the Revolution. From the records in the State House in Boston, we learn that he was only fifteen years old when he entered the service, yet even at that early age he is on the records as being five feet eleven inches in height, erect and strong.

This marriage between Ichabod Nye and Minerva Tupper was the third between the Tupper and Nye families, in each case the man being the Nye and the woman the Tupper. They were probably third cousins as Ichabod Nye was a direct descendant of the first Benjamin and Katherine Tupper, while Minerva Tupper was also the descendant of the first Thomas Tupper.

When in 1788, Gen. Tupper brought his family to the new Ohio country, with him as part of his family came Ichabod Nye, his wife Minerva and their small children, Horace, two years, and Panthea, six months. We have not many accounts of that journey to the Ohio but those that we have are interesting. They were ten weeks on the way and now we think the journey long if it is two days.

Wagon builders were not common in New England in those days and it took some time to get one, but at last two wagons were built, one for the family and one for the baggage. General Tupper's family circle was large, himself, wife, two sons, his daughter Rowena as well as Ichabod Nye, his wife and children, and two hired men. There was also Col. Cushing with his family, Major Goodale and his family.

When they arrived at the Ohio they had to wait at Wellsville three weeks for Major Coburn and his family who had been detained in crossing the mountains, and for the Ohio Company's boat from Marietta to take them down the river. At Wellsville it was decided that the worn out horses must be sent down to Marietta by land and Ichabod Nye was chosen for this perilous duty. He was a man of great courage and resolution, of cool head and good judgment, with his faculties well developed by his years of army service. He took the two hired men and with the horses made the trip on the Virginia side, arriving in





Marietta on the 9th of August. Perhaps it was just as well that he did not make the trip on the Galley for we have it from his own testimony that the voyagers were "packed in like slaves on the middle passage." And certain it is if those were his sentiments he was too genuine a Nye not to be more comfortable sleeping in the forest under the green trees and the stars. The three weeks of waiting at Wellsville or Buffalo Creek could not have been very tedious. They left Chesterfield in June and arrived at Buffalo Creek in July. On the 6th of July, 1788, Rowena Tupper wrote to her friend Mrs. Stone of Chesterfield.

BUFFALO CREEK, July 6, 1788.

DEAR FRIEND:

Is it possible that 600 miles separate us? Yes it is true for we are now within one day's ride by water carriage and very unexpectedly we have just heard of an opportunity for conveying a few lines to some of our friends.

The journey has been slow but not so disagreeable as your ideas suggest to you. For four hundred miles the journey was so easy that we were never more fatigued at night than we were about our daily business when at home. The roads were good, we made but twenty miles a day, therefore we had many leisure hours. Our company was lively and agreeable, there were curiosities hourly presenting themselves to our view and we have met with no kind of accident to detain us on our journey. Not one of the family has had a sick day, the children are healthy, Panthea is one of the sweetest girls you ever saw. The latter part of our journey has been rather more fatiguing. We have had several mountains to cross. Some nights we have had to lodge in the woods and some in houses not calculated for people to dwell in, but this did not damp our spirits.

We have favorable accounts from Muskingum.

(Then see the tender appeal to her friend when she says)

Mrs. Stone, are we never more to see you? Heaven forbid that that should be the case. There is scarcely an hour passes but we think of our old friends and often say between ourselves, today if we were at home as we call it, we would visit Mrs. Stone or Mrs. Huntington. But we will think no more of that.

Heaven's blessings rest upon you all.

Your friend

ROWENA TUPPER.

On the 13th of August they were joined by the Rev. Manassah Cutler and from his diary also we get little word pictures of the journey to the Ohio.

August 8—Blue Mountain the first we ascend is long, in some



parts steep, the road rocky. It is three miles over, stopped at Mr. Skinners, who is the principal man in making the new roads.

August 9—Nine miles from Fort Littleton—we begin to ascend Sideling Hill. The hill has very little ascent on the new road where they are now at work: when finished it must be called a good road for this country. It is seven miles over the hills. We found a bit of a town at the foot of the hill. Met a packer with ten horses loaded principally with ginseng in barrels—two barrels on a horse, price at Fort Pitt two shilling a pound. Fair day, not excessively hot.

August 10—Went to meeting six miles out excessively bad road—meeting house in the woods with no dwelling near, congregation large, not less than three or four hundred horses. Made a curious appearance.

August 11—Set out as sun rose. Went on and breakfasted at Washington. The town is composed of one street of houses all new, the stumps still in the steets. Some of the houses handsome. A court house and jail in the center of the city.

August 13—Capt. Cooper who came up in the Ohio Company's large boat went to Charles Well's just over the line between Pennsylvania and Virginia. This line is cut about 20 feet wide through the woods and makes a singular appearance.

August 14—This morning went to the Ohio river, about a quarter of a mile, when we had the first sight of this beautiful river. It is now very low. We went early to the boat. Gen. Tupper mentioned to me a mode of constructing a machine to work in the head or stern of a boat instead of oars. We constructed a machine in the form of a screw with short blades and placed it in the stern of the boat which we turned with a crank. It succeeded to admiration. Gen. Tupper was thus the inventor of the first screw propeller.

August 15—This morning we went to the boat and began to take on board the wagons. We went down in a boat with Gen. Tupper to sound as far as Buffalo Creek, one mile below our landing, the river being very low and fallen since yesterday.

August 16—After dinner got in our stock. The boat would not float, the afternoon was spent in attempting to get her into the channel which was not accomplished until dark.

Sunday August 17—The people got on board about nine o'clock. Went past Buffalo Creek before we could get the cattle on board. Went down the river, it is a most delightful stream, the shores very romantic. Went to Wheeling—18





miles—landed our cattle—lodged with Mr. Zane. Opposite his house is a very rich and fine island of three hundred acres.

Monday August 18—Mr. Zane showed me his rice in his garden about a rod square in drills—assured me it would yield two bushels. He raises cotton also and tobacco. It was nine o'clock before we got our cattle on board. Proceeded on the voyage and divided ourselves into five watches for rowing. Passed the Longrack in the night.

Tuesday August 19—Morning cloudy and showery—went on rapidly, fine view up and down the river, land less mountainous. Land very fine—the hills begin to retire from the river, many beautiful islands. It began to rain about two o'clock and continued very hard until we landed at Muskingum. The first appearance was that of Fort Harmer which was very pretty but the state of the weather injured the prospect very much.

And this tells of their first day in the garrison.

Wednesday August 20—This day an entertainment was given to the Governor and officers of the garrison at the hall in the Northwest Block House in Campus Martius. We had a handsome dinner with punch and wine. Gov. St. Clair and the ladies from the garrison were very sociable. Miss Rowena Tupper and the two Misses Goodale dined and fifty-five gentlemen. The hall was large to accommodate such a goodly company and the newcomers could feel that they had not left all the pleasures of civilization behind them.

There has been very little said about Ohio women even when the remark that Ohio men take everything has been repeated, and yet it is the mothers who first point out the path to their afterward distinguished sons.

The strong moral fibre of the New England Puritan suffered no diminution in their Ohio descendants.

The men, the immortal forty-eight who landed here on the 7th of April, came to blaze the way as it were: the real settlement of the Northwest Territory began when the families, the women came, and brought with them the home life, that corner stone of a nation.

This home life began in the Campus Martius, that spot whose historic value has been said to be unsurpassed, and the first settlement was Marietta, which has been called the Plymouth Rock of the Northwest.

And with what high courage they came to their new home in the great wilderness, the true courage of the Pilgrim and the Pioneer.



Yet sometimes even to these brave hearts there must have come the inevitable homesick longing for the old home with its tender memories.

In a letter written by Mrs. Nye to her friend Mrs. Stone of Chesterfield, we see this tender backward thought.

Fair Chesterfield, home of their youth. It was a hill country—beautiful in its position with a fine view of the valley and the sweep of the great New England river.

MARIETTA, September 19, 1788.

DEAR SISTER, for so let me call you:

An opportunity presents itself of writing to you which I embrace with the greatest delight. What a happy circumstance it is that although we are placed at 800 miles distance we can converse together though not verbally.

I suppose by this time our friends at Chesterfield are anxious to hear from us. We have all of us enjoyed good health since we left you. We were a long time on the road, it was ten weeks before we arrived at our journey's end, three of which we waited for Major Coburn.

Nothing remarkable happened on our journey. We now live in the city of Marietta where we expect to end our days.

We find the country much more delightful than we had any idea of. We have formed some acquaintances that are very agreeable. Yesterday we had the honor of drinking tea with Gen. Harmar and Lady and Capt. McCurdy and Lady and found them very sociable, but we did not take the satisfaction that we should in visiting our old friends, Mrs. Stone or Mrs. Huntington. Oh! Betsy how do you do? how I would like to see you, happy should I be if I could make you a visit this afternoon, but I must think no more of this.

I suppose by this time you have heard that we are all killed by the Indians but kind Providence hath preserved us from their savage hands. Mrs. Stone what shall I write next? If I could see you I could tell you more in one half hour than I could write in a day.

I suppose you enjoy the company of your sister Pirsis.

I wish you were here but I must bid you adieu for my water is on for washing.

Rowena presents her compliments. Would have written you but time would not admit.

Mr. Nye presents his compliments and likewise to Mr. Stone.

I remain your friend and well wisher,

MINERVA TUPPER NYE.

Mrs. Stone, Chesterfield.





A second letter from Rowena Tupper to this Mrs. Stone tells us still more of their new home.

MARIETTA, November 18, 1788.

DEAR FRIEND:

You cannot imagine with what eagerness I improve an opportunity of conveying a line to you although I have nothing of consequence to write. Yet I cannot think it will be disagreeable to hear of the health and welfare of a friend or friends, in particular those whose lot is cast hundreds of miles distance from you in a savage land which might greatly relieve your curiosity. You doubtless have had various conjectures concerning our situation. I wish my dear it was possible to give you an exact idea of it, I am persuaded that we are much happier than you conceive of.

The country has been so often spoken of that it is needless for me to say more than that it answers every expectation. The society far exceeds whatever my ideas had formed and I think should Heaven but spare my life, I shall spend a very sociable winter. The inhabitants increase very fast—our buildings are decent and comfortable. The Indians appear to be perfectly friendly, their encampments are in sight of our buildings, but notwithstanding their professed friendship we are not unguarded, there is a guard placed every night.

But hark! what do I hear below some voice saying?

Col. Oliver is now landing, is it possible! With what alacrity will I ply to meet them that I may hear from my worthy friends in New England. You surely have written to me. With what eagerness will I grasp your letter. Have you not written everything you know? but I must away.

I have now returned to close my letter but with a heavy dejected heart. What do you suppose my feelings must have been when I was denied a single line from my friends. Is it possible that you have forgotten Rowena? I cannot persuade myself to believe that.

But where are your sisters? Are either of them with you? Are they in health? Would to Heaven I could be assured to these and many other questions which you know my feelings would prompt me to ask. Mrs. Nye has just gone from my chamber as unhappily disappointed as myself. She together with our families are in health. Her little children are hearty and extremely pleasing. Horace is much of a chatterbox, but I must conclude by wishing you long blessing of that is requisite to make you happy and subscribing myself your unalterable friend

ROWENA TUPPER.

Mrs. Stone.

P. S.—Present my compliments to all inquirers. I shall never more trouble them until I have received some in return.





As this second Mayflower, so famous in history but so prosaically uncomfortable, came to anchor at the mouth of the Muskingum, Ichabod Nye was waiting on the shore to receive his family, he having arrived on the 9th of August. We know his opinion of the loading of this boat and he no doubt was as eager to remove his wife from its discomforts as she was to go.

He had a horse with him and mounting his wife and children upon it he took them at once to the garrison, the Campus Martius. The rest of the passengers remaining on board until the next day.

The next morning the boat was towed around into the Muskingum and landed at the foot of Washington Street, where the ladies and children were received with the greatest enthusiasm and escorted to Campus Martius.

Mrs. Nye was thus the first woman to lodge in the Campus Martius, the principal place of defence upon the border of the then vast wilderness of Ohio.

She was at this time twenty-four years of age, of medium height, with soft brown eyes and abundant brown hair, light of foot, quick of movement, gentle in voice and manner, full of courage for life under the new conditions; she was never known to falter nor complain of the hardships which she encountered. For crowded with her family and friends within the barriers of a small fort she endured the privations and suffered the alarms, anxieties and dangers of the five years' Indian war encountered by the first settlers.

It was during this period that her son Arius, afterwards the most distinguished of her children, was born in the Campus Martius, the third person born in the entire Northwest Territory.

Mrs. Nye was a good housekeeper and "given to hospitality." Her tea was famous among her friends.

Her husband always spoke with pride of his wife's ability to make the best of meals out of next to nothing and when these meals of next to nothing meant only parched corn, that being their sole supply during one hard winter, we know she must have been skilled indeed in that housewifery for which Ohio women have since become famous.

From her obituary we learn that she lived to witness the wilderness to which she came in 1788, flourishing with the arts and comforts of civilized life.

As the mother of a family, a goodly family of twelve children, as a friend and neighbor whose heart o'er flowed with kindly affection, she also witnessed the reward of her cares and



anxieties and her rarely surpassed maternal affection in her children's children to the third generation of her descendants.

She had the loving heart to feel and the sympathy that taught her how to express her children's needs.

A lover of flowers, the sweet white violets she planted in the sheltered nook under her bedroom window have left a fragrant memory of her for her descendants.

It is a striking and affecting incident of her last days that upon the anniversary of the first settlement of this state, the 7th of April, 1836, some hundreds of persons were visitors at the residence of Col. Nye on the stockade, among them many of her old friends and neighbors who came to partake of the well known hospitality of Col. and Mrs. Nye. It was as if they had come for a last earthly interview with her, for in less than two weeks after, on the 20th of April, 1836, she died suddenly of congestion of the brain.

After a residence of forty-eight years upon the spot where she first found shelter upon her arrival at this place we are told in the quaint language of the time that "on Friday morning attended by her family and near relatives and a company of her friends, neighbors and acquaintances, her mortal remains were committed to the ground."

She had lived seventy-two years and if the highest welfare of society requires of us that which each one can give, we know that this mother faithfully did her part and her children and children's children thank her for the example her life has given them.

Music by Miss Alice Hamilton of Marietta, accompanied by Miss Ruth Hamilton, followed, which was well received by the audience.

Mrs. Henry A. Belcher's paper, "The Nye Family Association," was listened to with close attention. It was as follows:

I have been asked by the chairman of the committee of arrangements to give an account of the beginning, the object and the present condition of the Nye Family Association of America.

As to its conception and the means which brought about this Association, they have already been given to you, and are now in print.

I must again, if I wish to give you the history of its birth, go back in our family history nearly three hundred years. As I





stand on the hill top in the rear of my summer home in the old town of Sandwich looking out at sea with a love of it born with my childhood, my mind reverts back, and I seem to see in my imagination the curling waves of Massachusetts bay sweeping to the golden sands of the shore, till they are lost in the mists beyond. Here and there upon the shore are great patches of timber lands, and again the green marshes, marked with the silver threads of the streams which at full tide course toward the sea, at that time as they are now at that season of the year, fringed with the bright Autumn flowers. And behind this an unbroken wilderness, stretching way back to the buttresses of the hills, between which the town stands today. Above is the blue sky, and through this above the tree tops we seem to see rising and floating lazily away the smoke from the few cabins, the homes of the new settlers of this new land. One of these must have been the home of our ancestor, Benjamin Nye, who was the original founder, and through him began the Nye Family Association of America, and as I have previously said, and will repeat upon every occasion, we should at this time and at all future gatherings, never forget to honor his name and memory, not only because he is our ancestor, and not only because of his hardships and trials, but primarily that he was one of the settlers of these Pilgrim towns, of which Sandwich was one, along the shores of Massachusetts Bay, who brought to this country the two kindred ideas of civil and religious liberty which controls this land, and which will eventually control mankind. They held more tenaciously, and preserved more firmly than any other set of men of English blood those two root ideas from which this nation derives its institutions, bringing to these lonely shores the corn, wine and oil upon which this nation has fed itself to greatness, yea the greatest upon the face of the earth.

As the years go on, the church shows its spire above the green of the forest trees, and the school house gathers under its roof the children of the pilgrim to be taught these same principles, and also that their destiny was in their own right hands. With these principles and a common school education, the children and the grandchildren of our ancestor left the old town and the old homestead, making homes for themselves and their families, some near and some far from the old town. Among these was the immediate ancestor of the tribe of Nye in Ohio. And as we from the East join with you today in looking with pride upon this prosperous city which you must feel is the result largely of



the labors, trials, and hardships of your ancestor, so may all the descendants of Benjamin Nye feel that just pride which is their due as part of a family tree whose roots came from one of the settlers of the Plymouth Colony. It was that kinship, or what to me means the same, that feeling of pride in our family name which drew together the members of the family in Sandwich and the other Cape towns who had strains of this blood in their veins, that they might keep alive the memories of these old hearthstones in New England, and thus perpetuate in the children of the present generation feelings of reverence for those ancestors of the olden time, and thus has been brought together from all parts of the broad land the sons and daughters of the descendants of the originator of the Nye family, to join with the family on Cape Cod in two very successful reunions, and has bound them together to cherish and preserve those family ties and associations which spring from the knowledge and study of their lives, which are so dear to us all.

In the preliminary call for the formation of our Association it was stated that the objects of it were these:—To collect family history, to promote family pride, and to cultivate a closer bond of friendship among the kindred. I do not know that anything I might add would be more comprehensive than these, as they touch the past, the present and the future of our family ties. History must necessarily deal with the past, and as I have seen during my summer sojourn in Sandwich many who had given very little, if any, attention to it before, poring over the records of the old town that they, too, might become familiar with the lives and deeds of their ancestors, I felt that we were fulfilling at least one of the objects of our association. And as the record of the lives of our ancestors is brought to light we give to this generation by their examples this idea, that no man can serve in a republic without being able to grapple all of its problems and invest them with high ideals. It was so with them, and their lives show that they could not have achieved what they did unless they had had good judgment, and a strong conception of duty, and one of the duties of this and all of the old family associations is to bring to posterity a clear vision of what was the true character of these men and women who were our ancestors and the founders of this republic. When we do so we find them mingling together great experiences with great principles, and thus they become in every Nye household in our land an inspiration and an influence for good which is ineffaceable.





It has been well said, "that by treasuring up the memorials of our fathers we best manifest our regard for posterity." The story of the men who founded this republic must have a strong influence upon every home in the land, and we, at least, are doing our part by giving to the young their lives as an example to help perpetuate the land they helped to establish. We give them no dross but bright shining gold. Leaving the shores of old Cape Cod, and the old town of Sandwich, we are today enjoying the hospitality of the tribe of Nye in Ohio, one of the great states of the middle West, with its beautiful cities, its thriving towns, and finely cultivated farms, all filled with the thousands of men and women contented and happy in your midst. And if we were looking for a source of family pride we need go no further. For here upon the shore of your great river we are holding the third reunion of the Nye Family Association in a city which one of the descendants of the Sandwich Nyes helped to establish, and his descendants who are our hosts today can certainly have that feeling of family pride that their ancestor, who builded better than he knew, has left this splendid heritage of pride in him for them to enjoy.

As to its present, as I have already said, we have held two very successful reunions at Sandwich, with, of course, a large local attendance from New England and the Cape towns, also a generous response from the Ohio tribe, with representatives from California and other Western States. And now I trust that this reunion, held in the Middle West, will broaden out the membership of our Association, and that branches of the tree, more distant than yours is from the trunk, may gain strength and vigor, and that many who have now only a passing interest in the Association and our family tree, may become not only members in name, but have a vital interest in the Association and its affairs.

It was always a source of great surprise to me during the two years in which I was the secretary of this Association to see how comparatively small numbers of those who were eligible to membership, availed themselves of what seemed to me a great privilege in becoming members of this Association. Many of these belong to, and are active workers in, the various patriotic societies, and the causes which have made the existence of these societies possible are the various epochs in our country's history. But the cause from which our organization springs antedates all these, and had not the cause of ours, and other old family associations existed, there would have been no foundation upon which they could have builded theirs.





We often hear it said, had not the Pilgrim settled this land, it might have been done by others. We grant this, but in all human probability, had that happened they would not, at that date of the world's history, been men of the same vigor, and their lives governed by the same great principles as their's were, and they would not have caused the throes which this country has passed through in making it the independent and powerful land of our time. And I still believe that the descendants of those old families, through whose veins flow their blood, ought first of all to join such an association as this, the cause of whose existence is the primary one, and the beginning which has made the others possible by the settlement of this land by our Pilgrim ancestors. And I urge again that the pride of having the privilege of joining such an association, should fill our membership to the full.

We are now in touch with thirteen hundred Nyes, by birth and marriage, and have a membership of about 180. I hope at this meeting some means may be devised to add largely to our membership numerically, which will strengthen it also financially, and thus put the Association on a solid foundation, not only for the present but for the future. Many of us already feel that vital interest in its future; to these I have no word but this: it has been said that no object can succeed without enthusiasm; therefore I have this to say to them, let us put more enthusiasm into our work for the Association, and try by word and deed to carry it on to future success.

As to its future, what can I say. Nothing positive, but as one who has given to its birth and youth much thought and work, I must now look to the future with hope that as bright as its birth was, may the coming years add much to its influence and also in binding us together as one family.

A very bright and entertaining paper was read by Miss Margaret Fielding Nye of Cleveland, Ohio. She had visited the old home town in 1904 and wrote "A child's impressions of Sandwich."

It is not my purpose to tell you how many children the numerous Nyes have had, nor give you in detail the dates of their births, marriages and deaths. I will leave the older members to pronounce the names which have been known to precede "Nye"—if they can. I am going to tell you my opinion of Sandwich. "As if that was worth much" some of you may say.



But some day the coming generation will have the control of the association in their hands. And if they want to make things hum, they must watch and see how the present managers do things and profit by their experience.

In the first place, before I went to Sandwich, I wondered how our ancestors had courage to land on what Mrs. Hemans in "The Landing of the Pilgrims," has called "a stern and rock-bound coast." While the early history shows us the stormy landing amidst the rocks and other great trials and tribulations, there is one which most historians have missed. It was brought to light by a minister in New England in an address entitled "The Pilgrim Fathers." He says: "I have always felt the deepest sympathy for the Pilgrim Fathers who suffered such extraordinary hardships in establishing a foot-hold in this country: But sorry as I have felt for the Pilgrim Fathers, I have felt still sorrier for the Pilgrim Mothers; for not only were they obliged to endure the same hardships, but they also had to endure the Pilgrim Fathers."

However, when I reached Sandwich and saw what a flourishing little town it is and what a quaint beauty it possesses, I felt that, could our fathers revisit the place which they founded, they would feel well repaid for their troubles, which we are convinced were not few.

Let us follow Katharine Tupper back to her early home. You have seen it as it is now. The gray old house that it is, not having had the best of housekeeping of late, might not please Katharine Tupper, could she see it now. But close your eyes and let your imagination carry you back two centuries. Then open them again upon those old scenes and you will see the little home as it stood then. In summer thrifty rows of flowers grew on either side of the path—perhaps roses, phlox, hollyhocks, sweet marjory, lavender, garden pinks, and others arranged in prim rows.

Or winter, with the snow lying heavily on the ground, piled in drifts about the house. If I had been there, I would have loved to help the men of the family cut a path through those drifts, now and then taking advantage of a turned back to pelt it with snowballs. But dear me! Poor little Katharine must stay indoors and help with the spinning or work on her sampler over in the chimney corner. Poor child! Did she ever have a snowball fight?

Now all is changed. We go up the path, bereft of the flow-





ers that bloomed in Katharine's time, in the place of which is a picture of desolation and Katharine will sigh and shudder as she looks upon her once bright and cheerful home. And in the winter—but we need not look at that dreary picture; so let us drive to the village. Yes, this is the very road over which our ancestor, Benjamin Nye, ploded every evening with his gun over his shoulder, to woo his bride. Now we reach the village. There are many objects of interest in Sandwich. The First Parrish church stands on the site of the first church ever built in Sandwich and in it the reunion meetings were held. The Town Hall, the quaint little house in one side of which a lawyer had his office, and the other side Katharine Tupper at once would recognize as the place to which she went when she needed a new bonnet—very different from the milliner's shops of to-day. Then there is the hotel—long to be remembered—and last but by no means least, the drug store containing the soda fountain. Imagine Benjamin Nye's surprise if upon returning to visit the familiar scenes of his early home, he should go to look over his mill and found on the old mill site a modern cut-glass factory! And would he understand the works of Mr. Wm. L. Nye's tag factory if he could see it now? We question it.

The Nyes without doubt were among the chief inhabitants of what we might call "The Nye Sandwich." Of this fact we have many proofs, among others being the home of Mrs. Holway, in which seven generations of Nyes have been raised, and the home of Mr. and Mrs. William L. Nye, in which no one but Nyes have ever lived. The beautiful churchyard overlooking Shawme Lake is a proof in itself. We might apply the name of Nye to a line of Bryant's "Thanatopsis," making it read, "All the Nyes that tread the globe are but a handful to the Nyes that slumber in its bosom." It is Nye on this stone and Nye on that.

I am sure that Sandwich scenery is all that an artist would need to copy to make his fortune. The two picturesque lakes surrounded by thickly wooded hills, and by the waters of which Sandwich nestles, and the very village itself with its beautiful street, call those who have seen it back for another look. And if you have not seen it, the next chance you get, go to the Nye reunion at Sandwich.

MARGARET FIELDING NYE.  
Aged 14 years.



A group of songs by Miss Marie Hamilton with violin obligato by Miss Alice Hamilton, was effectively rendered.

It was voted to postpone the rest of the program until the next morning. The meeting adjourned.

The afternoon and evening of Thursday were devoted to a trip thirteen miles down the Ohio river to the famous Blennerhassett Island on the steamer Sonoma, which afforded ample accommodation for the large party. The weather was fine, and all enjoyed the beautiful scenery and the visit to one of the most noted historical points of interest in the country. At the Island Mr. John Dana of Belpre, Ohio, gave a short address upon the main features of interest connected with the so-called "Burr and Blennerhassett treason." During the return trip a fine collation was served on the boat. Music from the band with songs and stories enlivened the home voyage. All voted that this moonlight boat ride was one of the most enjoyable occasions accorded by our Marietta hosts and hostesses.

#### FRIDAY MORNING.

The meeting was called to order by Hon. David J. Nye, the presiding officer. An organ prelude by Miss Flora Mason followed. A prayer was offered by Rev. Elmer J. Nye of Georgia, Vt.

Miss Muriel Palmer rendered two of her most pleasing numbers, after which Mrs. Sarah M. McGirr of Marietta, one of the oldest members of the Association, was introduced. She read the following interesting paper which she had prepared concerning her great grandfather, Ebenezer Nye, a pioneer of Marietta, 1790.

My great grandfather, Ebenezer Nye, son of George Nye, the fourth remove from Benjamin Nye, was born in Tolland, Conn., in 1750. When twenty four years of age, he removed to Litchfield County, where he married Desire Sawyer. To them were



born five sons (Lewis, Neal, Melsar, George and Nathan) and one daughter Sarah. His second wife was the widow Gardiner.

In 1790, Ebenezer Nye, at the suggestion of his brother Ichabod, who had preceded him to Ohio, exchanged his farm in Connecticut for a share in the Ohio Company's purchase, located in Rainbow township, Washington Co. Traveling overland, he and family reached Robston (name may be changed now) in harvest time. Here he and Joshua Shipman bought a flat boat, which was afterward converted into tan vats by Ichabod Nye. In this boat the two families came to Marietta.

On account of the Indian warfare, he was compelled to live in the Blockhouse for several years, occupying rooms in the south-east corner, where the old Nye house now stands.

Tradition says he was a Baptist minister. A number of his written sermons, also his autobiography, are still in existence. It is supposed the sermons were delivered in his own home where religious services were held. These papers are in the possession of Mrs. Gates of Portsmouth, O., a granddaughter of Mr. Nye. She prizes them so highly they could not be bought, borrowed nor stolen. The widow Kelly and her children lived with this family after her husband was shot by the Indians, and one son little Joseph, seven years old was taken captive. He was thought to have been dead for four years, when through the exertions of Col. Meigs, in a treaty with the Indians, he was restored to his mother. Joseph lived to a great age, and his body now rests in Mound Cemetery. Mrs. Kelly was the mother of the first child born in Marietta, Arthur St. Clair Kelly, who became a person of note.

After the treaty with the Indians, Ebenezer Nye built a log cabin on his farm in Rainbow, opposite March Run. Afterward, a large house was built on the same spot. Ebenezer died in 1823, his first wife having died in 1800. Moss covered slabs, in Rainbow Cemetery, now mark the resting places of himself and wives.

Sarah the only daughter of Ebenezer Nye was born February 24, 1777. At the age of eighteen, she was engaged to marry Azariah Pratt, one of the young men among the first settlers, and was to have been married in the spring of 1795. She had her web of linen woven ready to convert into her household outfit, when, according to the oft repeated tale, (and a true one) her father's store house in Marietta, containing corn and the hetchelled flax of 1794, was entirely destroyed by fire. On account of





this Sarah was obliged to take her web and make shirts for a family of six men, and wait another year for a crop of flax to grow. Many bitter tears were shed by Sarah over the loss. How many young ladies of the present day would weep over the loss of a web of home made linen? The marriage was finally consummated May 4th, 1797, the bride wearing the gloves she had spun and knit two years before for the occasion, but which she had lent to two other brides in the interval.

The Fort in Marietta now became her home, where she showed great bravery in milking the cow outside the inclosure, while her brothers stood over her with muskets to protect her from the Indians.

Cows were few in those days and one was a prize.

Azariah Pratt the bridegroom was also of English descent, being the fifth remove from Lieut. William Pratt, who came to this country in 1632. His ancestors were of the nobility of England. The family crest is illustrated in the "Pratt history," showing the name "Pratt" and two lions engraved on an ornamented shield. We are happy in supposing this indicated strength, mentally and physically. However that may be, the Pratts are a sturdy race and quite long lived. Sarah Nye Pratt and husband lived in the Block house or Fort several years. Three children were born there—Elisha, Seth and George. In 1803 Mr. Pratt built the house now standing at 430 Front St., everything about it being made by hand. It was considered quite a mansion at that time although it would be thought plain and old-fashioned now. It has a very interesting history both sad and joyous, for four generations of the family have lived in it. A well, in the rear of this house, dug by Melzar Nye, still supplies the thirsty with clear ice cold water.

Mr. Pratt was a silversmith by trade and the sets of tea and table spoons made by him, from coin, are scattered throughout Marietta among the older inhabitants and their descendants. Gold beads which he made by hand were in vogue at that time. These have come down from mother to daughter for several generations. Old account books show that he also made by hand gold rings and silver thimbles for the dames, and silver knee buckles for Blennerhassett and Return Jonathan Meigs.

Besides the three children born in the Fort, seven others were born in the then new house. These were Lucinda, Lucy, Abigail, Ebenezer, Mary and Lewis. This house-mother with her ten children, when everything was made by hand, spent no idle



time. The midnight candle often lit up the spinning wheel where a large family had to be clothed from the wool and flax of their own raising. As an illustration of the urgent push of those early days, a son, in one of the pioneer families, was one day called to military duty. He must report at headquarters within forty-eight hours. Ezra's wardrobe was very scanty, and he must have a new suit made. The father arose early in the morning and sheared some black sheep. The mother and daughters washed and dried the same, the big log fireplace being called into service. Then the wool was "picked," and one took the hand cards and carded it into rolls; another spun the rolls into yarn; the mother warped and put it into the loom. A web of woolen cloth was the result. This was cut into trousers and a "Warmus" for Ezra, the women sitting up all night to complete the suit. In the morning the young man started for headquarters equipped in his new suit with a musket over his shoulder, amid the God-speeds of the whole family.

Sarah Nye Pratt was noted for her great force of character. After leaving Marietta in 1819 to settle on a farm in Athens Co., her husband having ill health, she often took her faithful dog and went over the farm superintending and advising the hands: the results showed that her good judgment was not ignored.

Elisha Pratt, son of Sarah Nye Pratt, settled in the house on Front St. and his descendants of two generations have since lived there. Three only are now living but the old house still stands virtually the same as it was when built 102 years ago.

Ichabod and Ebenezer Nye, pioneers of Marietta, who made for themselves and families homes around this "Plymouth Rock" of the North West Territory, have for 117 years been sending westward sons and daughters, who are engaged in all professions and occupations.

The descendants of Father and Mother (Benjamin and Katherine Nye) have formed a line from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

The Nyes may eventually span the globe and land again at Sandwich.

All hail to the Nyes!

Mrs. Emerson H. Brush sang "Wood Wanderings" and "Roses in June" to the delight of the large audience who heartily encored her.

Mr. Robert W. Thompson of Middletown, Conn., who has made a careful study of the genealogy of the Nye Family, then





presented an admirably written Paper upon the Tolland, Connecticut Nyes. At Mr. Thompson's request, Mrs. J. R. Holway of Sandwich, read the paper.

Caleb<sup>2</sup> Nye, son of Benjamin and Katharine (Tupper) Nye, lived at Sandwich, Mass., where he was made a freeman in 1681; before 1685 he had married Elizabeth Wood, daughter of John Wood (or Atwood) and his wife Sarah (Masterson) Wood, Plymouth, Mass., and grand-daughter of Richard and Mary of (Goodell) Masterfon. Caleb<sup>2</sup> Nye died at Sandwich in 1704, leaving his wife Elizabeth, three sons and three daughters.

His will, dated April 17, 1704, bequeathed all his property, both real and personal, to his wife during her lifetime or widowhood; in the event of her death or remarriage the property was to descend to Timothy, the eldest son; if Timothy died without issue, then John, the second son, was to succeed; if both the older sons died without issue, then Ebenezer, the youngest son, was to inherit the property. John was to be paid £20 in silver money one year after his father's death. Ebenezer was to be put out at some good trade and to receive £7 in money when he was twenty one years old. The three daughters were to receive £15 apiece at their marriage or when they were eighteen. Timothy<sup>3</sup> eventually inherited the estate and the younger sons went away to seek their fortunes. John<sup>3</sup>, the second son, settled in Westerly, R. I., where he died in 1723, leaving four sons, one of whom will appear among the Connecticut Nyes.

Ebenezer<sup>3</sup> Nye, the youngest son of Caleb, went to Tolland, Conn.; what particular reasons he had we do not know positively. Several causes may have contributed to this location; in 1715 there were only two families in Tolland, but in 1720 there were twenty-eight families, among them Ebenezer Nye. Tradition says that several families who disagreed with older friends on church matters, removed from Massachusetts and settled in Tolland about 1717; the party was known as the Rev. Stephen Steele and his followers; it is certain that Mr. Steele was the first pastor of that place, where he ministered to the people until he died of old age. Ebenezer is said to have been one of his followers; again, Ebenezer's first wife, Susanna, may have had relatives who went to Tolland, accompanied by Ebenezer and his wife.



In 1702 Ebenezer's cousin, John Nye, conjointly with Edward Freeman, had purchased a large tract of land in Windam, Conn., near Tolland. Whatever his reasons were for making Tolland his home we have failed to learn, but we find in the records that in January 1721, and in November 1722, land was allotted to him; he also acquired land by purchase at various times. His home was in the extreme eastern part of the town, the eastern boundary of his land being the Willimantic River, which was crossed at that place by a bridge, still called Nye's bridge. The land allotted to Ebenezer Nye in 1721 and 1722 has as far as can be ascertained been in the possession of the Nye descendants ever since, the present owners being the heirs of the late Judge William Holman, son of Judge William and Anna (Nye) Holman. One tract of Ebenezer's land is described as near the Meeting House, being bounded on the north by Daniel Eaton's land and on the east, south and west by the common or undivided land; the survey was made by Daniel Eaton and Ebenezer Nye.

On May 15, 1759, Ebenezer<sup>3</sup> deeded to his son Benjamin<sup>4</sup> fifty acres of land on the Willington side of the river; he says "For and in consideration of the love, good will and affection which I have and do bear toward my son Benjamin Nye of Willington, etc., boundary beginning at a red oak tree marked near the bridge thence easterly as the highway runs to a stake and heap of stones near the turn of the road, etc." In 1804 Benjamin<sup>4</sup> Nye deeded this land to his son Elijah<sup>5</sup> who describes it as "the land conveyed to me by my honored father Benjamin Nye." He died 1818, aged 90 years.

In 1753, Ebenezer Nye and Zebulon West were sent from Tolland to the House of Representatives, while from 1717 to 1756, Ebenezer was either first, second or third selectman of the town.

The first Train-band under date of 1722, October, was commanded by Lieut. Joseph Hatch and Ensign John Huntington; in 1725 we find the following notice:

#### TO MAJOR WOLCOTT, ESQUIRE.

Pursuant to that order from yourself for the drawing of the first company in Tolland, to a choice of their commissioned officers, said company accordingly met on the twentieth day of April, 1725, and orderly chose Lieut. Joseph Hatch for captain, John Huntington for lieutenant and Joseph Peck for ensign.

EBENEZER NYE, Company Clerk.





Ebenezer was chosen ensign in May 1736, lieutenant in May 1737, and captain in 1746; after having been in the service for twenty-nine years, he was succeeded as captain, in 1751, by Ephraim Grant.

He died at Tolland, July 2, 1759, in his 68th year; by his will, in which all of his living children are mentioned, his wife and son Meletiah were appointed executors of his estate. There is a record of Ebenezer's family at Tolland; he married 1st Susanna—who died January 20, 1718, leaving an infant daughter Susannah; he then married, January 13, 1719, Sarah Nucum (Newcomb) by whom he had the following children:

- 2 Elizabeth <sup>4</sup>, born November 27, 1720, m. Mr. Pierce.
- 3 John <sup>4</sup>, born December 14, 1722, m. Abigail Fuller.
- 4 Sarah <sup>4</sup>, born August 9, 1724, died 1732.
- 5 Ebenezer <sup>4</sup>, born May 14, 1726, died 1727.
- 6 Benjamin <sup>4</sup>, born May 13, 1728, m. 1st Phebe West; 2nd Mary Crocker.
- 7 Eunice <sup>4</sup>, born February 15, 1729, m. Mr. Merrick.
- 8 Lois <sup>4</sup>, born May 25, 1732, m. Daniel Fuller.
- 9 Meletiah <sup>4</sup>, born April 21, 1734, m. Hannah Hubbard.
- 10 Thankful <sup>4</sup>, born August, 1736, m. Oliver West.
- 11 Samuel <sup>4</sup>, born July 20, 1738, m. Abigail Benton.
- 12 Silas <sup>4</sup>, born August 21, 1740.
- 13 Sarah <sup>4</sup>, born May 25, 1743.
- 14 Ebenezer <sup>4</sup>, born July 26, 1748.

The writer has a record of the different families and will send a copy to any one who is interested.

Meletiah <sup>4</sup> Nye was schoolmaster at Glastonbury Conn., where his name is found in the town records from 1764 to 1783, as serving the town in various offices. "November 4, 1779, at the Annual Meeting of Glastonbury Township, \$32 was voted to Meletiah Nye for keeping the school in the north district." "Voted that Meletiah Nye, Philip Conant and Samuel Hill be a committee to examine treasurer's, collectors's and committee's books for several years past, and make a return to the present committee of their doing forthwith." "Voted that Meletiah Nye and two others be a committee to look up old arrearages in this society and sue if need be and collect in and pay out where there is any debts and make return at next annual meeting."

At the Lexington Alarm Meletiah Nye was sergeant and his son Daniel was fifer in the company which marched from Glastonbury, Conn. Solomon <sup>5</sup> and Elijah <sup>5</sup>, two more sons of Meletiah, also served in the War of the Revolution.





After the war was ended, these three brothers, David, Solomon<sup>5</sup> and Elijah<sup>5</sup> settled in Vermont; in the spring of 1794 Meletiah<sup>4</sup> promised that after haying he would visit his boys in their Vermont homes, but he was killed by lightning in his hayfield on August 4, 1794. Of the other sons of Ebenezer<sup>3</sup>, two more, Silas<sup>4</sup> and Samuel<sup>4</sup>, served in the Revolutionary War, and Buel<sup>6</sup>, Jeduthan<sup>6</sup> and Marvin<sup>6</sup> grandsons of Samuel, were in the war of 1812.

Daniel<sup>5</sup> Nye, son of John<sup>4</sup> and grandson of Ebenezer<sup>3</sup>, was in the Sixth Company, Sage's Connecticut Regiment, officers Captain Parker of Tolland, and Lieut. Ichabod Hinckley; this company was with Washington at the retreat from New York, during which retreat Daniel lost an eye by the accidental discharge of his flint lock gun. He married Lydia Howe of Sudbury, and located in Vermont; among his descendants are Mr. Warren Nye of Vermont and Mrs. George W. Farnham of Buffalo, N.Y.

We have spoken of George<sup>4</sup> Nye, son of John<sup>3</sup> and Sarah (Cook) Nye and nephew of Ebenezer<sup>3</sup>; he was born at Westerlo, R. I., January 7, 1717; his father died in 1723, leaving five children, some of whom it is said were sent to live with relatives. When George was eight years old, he went to Tolland, Conn., to live with his uncle Ebenezer Nye; in time he became a landholder there, and in 1745 married the widow Thankful (Hinckley) Hatch, daughter of Ichabod Hinckley, formerly of Barnstable, Mass. In the French and Indian war in 1751-7, George Nye was in Captain Stoughton's Company in a Connecticut regiment, which was sent to reinforce Fort William Henry, but on its arrival at Kinderhook it was sent back as the French had captured the fort; George was paid for fifteen days service. He died at Tolland in 1779; his wife Thankful died in 1802 at Wethersfield, Vt., where she was living with her son Johnathan. The children of George<sup>4</sup> and Thankful (Hinckley) (Hatch) Nye, were:

1 Mercy<sup>5</sup>, born July 4, 1746, m. 1st Samuel Baldwin, 2nd Joseph Morgan.

2 Mary<sup>5</sup>, born December 10, 1748, m. William Johnson and lived at Norwich, Vermont.

3 Ebenezer<sup>5</sup>, born October 10, 1750, m. Desire Sawyer and located at Marietta, Ohio, in 1789.

4 Rebecca<sup>5</sup>, born June 25, 1753, m. Stephen Stimpson.

5 Jonathan<sup>5</sup>, born June 4, 1756, m. Miss Haskell and moved to Wethersfield, Vermont.



6 Sarah<sup>5</sup>, born October, 1758, m. Timothy Grannis, lived at Claremont, N. H.

7 Ichabod<sup>5</sup>, born December 21, 1792, m. Minerva Tupper and located at Marietta, Ohio.

8 George<sup>5</sup>, born February 28, 1766, m. Lucretia Dart, moved to Springfield, Vermont.

From this record it appears that all of the descendants of George Nye, bearing the Nye name, have left Connecticut.

Samuel Baldwin of Tolland, the first husband of Mercy Nye, was an invalid pensioner of the War of the Revolution; Joshua Morgan, her second husband, was sergeant in the Tolland company which marched at the Lexington Alarm. After the war Joshua and Mercy Morgan settled in Vermont; they are represented by Mrs. B. F. Severance of Greenfield, Mass.

Ebenezer<sup>5</sup> Nye, son of George<sup>4</sup>, enlisted for six months service in the Revolutionary army in 1775 or 6. Ichabod<sup>5</sup> Nye, son of George<sup>4</sup>, was in a Massachusetts regiment in the war of 1776; his brother Jonathan served in the Fourth Company, Captain Birge of Tolland, Sage's Connecticut Regiment, Third Battalion, Wadsworth's Brigade. This battalion raised in June, 1776, to reinforce Washington at New York, was with him at the retreat from that place and suffered some loss at White Plains where Captain Birge was killed; it was finally discharged December 26, 1776. Jonathan Nye finally settled at Wethersfield, Vt., where he became the owner of a large farm and mill; he died in 1828 and was buried at Brownington, Vt., where his brother, the Honorable George Nye, is also buried.

Other Nyes resident in Connecticut are the Lebanon families, who ere descended from John<sup>3</sup> and Sarah (Cook) Nye of Westery R. I. At Middletown, Conn., there was a Captain Braddock Nye, who was born at Sandwich, Mass., December 2, 1784; he married Martha Bourne of Sandwich, and located at Middletown about 1830; he died there September 6, 1840; his wife Martha died April 6, 1854, aged 65 years, 4 months and 25 days. The children of Captain Braddock and Martha (Bourne) Nye were: Dr. Elisha Bourne Nye; Hannah; Abbie; Martha and Clarissa. Dr. Nye was a prominent physician at Middletown, where he died March 7, 1889, aged 76 years; his sister Clarissa (Nye) Fowler, born September 17, 1824, died August 8, 1891, and was buried at Middletown.

Again the audience listened to delightful music. Miss Palmer sang, "Love Me if I Live," in a charming manner. She kindly responded to an encore with "Joe Anderson My Joe."





Mrs. Mary F. Potts of Zanesville, O. read a sketch she had written of the life of Major Horace Nye, her father, who came at the age of two years with his parents to Marietta in 1788. He and his baby sister were the first white children to dwell in the Ohio Company's purchase.

Horace Nye, oldest child of Col. Ichabod and Minerva Tupper Nye, was born in Chesterfield, Mass., June 8th, 1786. When two years of age the family, with others, arrived at Marietta, Ohio, the 19th day of August, 1788.

The stockade of this place of 200 feet square, in which the greater part of the settlers of that day were collected during the Indian war, made their home, he and a sister being the first white children who slept in the fort.

In 1806 he moved to Putnan (now Zanesville) to help his uncle, Gen. Tupper, in his store.

In August, 1812, a brigade of Ohio troops was raised in the southern part of the state, consisting of three regiments. This brigade was placed under command of Edward W. Tupper as Senior Brigadier General. Horace Nye went with him as Brigade Major or Inspector. The early part of the winter they spent at McArthur's block house. Gen. Hull surrendered at Detroit on the 16th August, 1812. That winter they were sent forward to Fort Meigs on the Maumee, which was under the command of Gen. Harrison, where they remained until their term of service expired about the first of March, 1813.

August 2nd, 1813, he was married to Fannie Safford. Five children were born to them; only one, Horace Safford Nye, lived to maturity. His wife died September 7, 1829. October 7, 1830, he married Lucinda Belknap; two children were born to them, a son, Samuel B. Nye, who died in 1854 at the age of 27 years, and the daughter Mary F. Nye, now Mrs. Thomas Potts.

He was a man of strict and honest business principles and an iron will. His opinion once formed, it was hard to move him and no one was allowed to dictate to him.

He was a man of no display, but with sterling qualities of head and heart, conscientious, economical and just to all. The word *can't* never entered into his vocabulary.

A great anti-slavery man, he always helped the *black man* to a safe retreat whenever an opportunity offered.

He died February 15, 1859, after a long sickness of paralysis.



(Col. Ichabod Nye was born in Tolland, Conn., on the 21st day of December, 1762, removed when a youth to the county of Hampshire, Mass. In the year 1788 he with others arrived in Marietta in advance of his and the other families on the 10th day of August that year by land, followed by the families by water the 19th day of August 1788.)

Mrs. Brush, by request, kindly consented to favor the audience again with the old Welsh ballad "Owen," and was as enthusiastically received as on the day before. This ballad was sung by her great grandmother, daughter of General Benjamin Tupper, who married Ichabod Nye in 1785. Mrs. Brush has composed an accompaniment and dedicated the music to the Nye Family of America.

Mr. William F. Nye of Fairhaven, Mass., was introduced by the President as the oldest member of the National Association of Manufacturers, which had thirty four hundred members. Mr. Nye, in response said, "It may be well, Mr. Chairman, that you mention my years, because then there will be little expected from such a veteran of wars. My paper has one excellent quality, at least, that of brevity."

#### DEAR FRIENDS AND KINDRED.

As it appears to me in my ripening years there comes to us all a stronger—a deeper sentiment and the holiest impulse to pay tribute to our ancestry, that leads us to link and to blend ourselves with the well springs from which our lives have flown and it seems to me to that there is the truest philosophy in this ripening off of the fruitage of our lives, and I will put the question for each to answer for themselves—is there to be a grand reunion in the sweet bye and bye of kindred souls—of families and loved ones to greet each other with all the tenderness of human hearts in other Homes beyond those we make for ourselves here? And now, dear cousins of Marietta and the great West, as the senior in years of the Eastern cousins to join you here at this time, it may be proper that I present you our greetings, as from the gladness that thrills my own breast do I feel commissioned to extend to you the warm hearts and hands of each and every member of the New England family of Nyes. On





two occasions as you know we have met at the shrine of Benjamin and Katharine and exchanged salutations. The Western sons and daughters came in numbers to old Sandwich to meet us, and together we mingled our pride of lineage and gathered up many characteristics of the family that happily link the past with the present, and entwine about us the tendrills of family affection.

As we again exchange greetings on this third reunion of our wide spread family, I especially desire to speak of one who to-day is with us in spirit, though confined by the decrepitudes of his eighty-four years to his Massachusetts home. Charles Henry Nye has long been interested in bringing about these reunions of the Nye Family, and he heartily wished me, as I called upon him a few days since, to bring to you Western members of the family a glad heart that he has lived to witness the culmination of his efforts. Some of you have met him at Sandwich and have made his acquaintance, and will second my high estimate of him as a man of pleasing personality and admirable in character. Together we worked for a considerable time in arranging the branches of Benjamin and John, sons of the original Benjamin, in their order, and I took it upon myself to have 100 copies of this chart lithographed of which a copy may be seen here.

How no less true than the needle that ever points to the pole is the passion in the human breast that draws kindred to their own. However wide our paths may diverge, that magnetic tie becomes even stronger like the glory of our country's flag, which wherever seen waving in any far distant land awakens the deepest sentiment of love and pride. A thousand times as in my length of days I have visited quite the four quarters of the globe, that Star Spangled Banner waving from some masthead has filled my soul with patriotic emotion, and so has the name "Nye" ever afforded me a thrill of pleasure in all places where I've met with it, and I am ever watching out for my namesakes in all places I visit.

During my three year's sojourn in the East Indies, I met the name many times among the officers of English shipping and English residents of Calcutta, and I think they must have been worthy scions of Sir Edward Nye who established the Nye Coat-of-Arms in London. In China at that time there was a family of Nyes that went from my own city of New Bedford some sixty years ago, and who are still connected with a prosperous mercantile house in Tien Tsin, China.





Somewhere amid my papers I retain a letter written by my brother Ebenezer, who in 1845 fled with his ship from his whaling grounds to the Golden Gate, where, under the protection of the U. S. Sloop of War "John Adams" he remained for some time pending the settlement of the Northwest boundary question with England. At that date San Francisco was but a huge sand hill interspersed with chaparral and sage brush, and bordered by a narrow sand beach along the magnificent bay. I was then but twenty-one years of age, and had learned the carpenter's trade. My brother thought it might be well for me to migrate there as they were laying out a Mexican town into fifty vara or quarter acre lots at the price of \$18.00 per lot. Gold was discovered there some few years later in 1849. I had at that date entered upon a three years sojourn in Calcutta to supply the great province of Bengal with Boston ice.

That contract terminating in 1851 I availed myself of an early opportunity to seek my fortune on the Pacific shore, and on a crowded steamship left New York, and arriving at Aspinwall (now Colon) I performed the feat of walking across the Isthmus of Panama over the mule paths that are now being obliterated by the Isthmian Canal. In due time I arrived at the Golden Gate, and landed in the then rough and tumble town of San Francisco with just money sufficient in my pocket to become the proprietor of one of those fifty vara lots had the price not advanced—but alas, they had gone to \$18,000 and it was only left me to ply my trade at \$10.00 per day in erecting buildings upon them. But just here again I discovered another namesake. Taking my lunch one day in a Mexican restaurant an elderly gentleman seated himself at my table, and noticing he was addressed by the proprietor as Mr. Nye I was startled, but with only a moment's reflection my hand was extended with the salutation "How are you, Nantucket," when he appeared more startled than myself. Memory awakened the fact that many years previous Meletiah Nye sailed away from his island home on a whaling voyage, and while visiting the Bay of San Francisco, he took French leave of his ship and as he very frankly told me, a grace abounding Senorita had beguiled him into Spanish ways. It proved an interesting meeting for me for he chaperoned me for some time, enlightening me by his long experience there, and with a wealth of courtesy introduced me to his friends at the Mission DeLoreas where he resided. He was eminently one of the few made use of at the time by the Courts in establishing the alcañda or Mexican titles to these same lands that speculators had



run up to fabulous prices, and where now is built one of the most stalwart cities of modern times.

Again in Aberdeen, Scotland, I was pleased to meet a family of Nyes that most gladly extended their courtesies to a name sake from Yankee land, and so wherever I go I take pleasure in consulting directories and looking up my namesakes, and find it a little star in life's firmament that ever leads me by that true language of the heart, and surely though silently the heart of man rules his intellect.

To you kindred throughout the Western States—to you sons and daughters of the early pioneers that crossed the Alleghanies and floated down the Ohio, leveling here the forests in Marietta, and settling the magnificent state of Ohio, we bring you only words of praise. Of your ancestors, tales of heroism, of patriotism and of lofty courage will be told by generations yet to be, for civilization has sprung from the faith they had in themselves, from the sturdy integrity they inherited from these struggling pioneers that built their homes along New England's rugged shores. As I have heretofore said that in all my journeying over the world I have been pleased to watch with peculiar interest, the success and development of the tribe of Nyes, and in all truth I can say, they are a "get up-and get race"—they manage to "get there" in whatever choice of vocation that falls to their lot. As a tribe, the Nyes possess a somewhat jovial and humorous vein—and though it became inimitable in our Cousin Bill—yet we may notice in them throughout a cheerful and pleasant expression, and ever as far as my lengthy observations have been made, I have noticed this trait has helped them to meet the reverses of fortunes we all more or less meet with.

I think our cousin, the Honorable Stephen A. Nye of Fairfield, Maine, (I hope he is here today for he told us he would be, if the walking should prove good) related at our first reunion at Sandwich the most interesting piece of history that was brought out there—how his great-grandfather and two brothers left Sandwich by vessel and were thirteen days reaching the Kennebec River, taking with them all the requisites for starting homes in the Maine woods. Not omitting the chief requisites, each took with them a good wife, and incidentally he relates that he never knew a Nye but what selected a good wife. Reaching Augusta they shouldered their bags and travelled twenty miles up and settled the town of Fairfield. Of these brothers Elisha had





eleven children, Bartlett had twelve and Bryant had thirteen. Surely Mr. Roosevelt cannot charge race suicide to the Nye tribe. I am inclined to think that should he stop off at Fairfield during his hunting excursions in the Maine woods and make the acquaintance of the descendants of this prolific family, it would augment his faith in the American people.

"Go West young man," was the earnest advice of Horace Greely the long time publisher of the New York Tribune. He had a wonderful comprehension of the wealth of Western soil—had well investigated—travelled over it—crossed the Mississippi and followed the great pathfinder Fremont to the Pacific slope before a railroad was built or even projected across the continent. Greely's advice was wise and timely, but your ancestors caught the spirit of prophecy long in advance of Greely's advice, and wonderful indeed is the result of their unyielding faith in civil liberty and the equal rights of mankind which have come down to you, their sons and daughters, to claim your noble heritage. That they all still live and are with us leading and guiding us by the unseen forces of spirit life, we will not doubt, and let us not forget that these unseen forces are working most effectually in the upbuilding of our yet young nation that today by its heart throbs is leading the old, depressed nations up to better ideals. Let each and every son and daughter of our land help the progress of civil liberty in throwing out upon every breeze that loving emblem of patriotism, union and love of country, and while we listen to the voices of the past may the angel of the future lend us his bright presence, and each revolving year come freighted with new aspiration, with fonder hopes and deeper faith and love for humanity—and may the rainbow of promise cheer us through the life that now is, and assure us of bright homes beyond the land of weeping.

Miss Carol Nye, daughter of Mr. George H. Nye of Auburn, N. Y., read in a charming manner, the instructive paper prepared by her father, the President of the Association. It was entitled, "A Retrospect on the Nye Coats of Arms."

History usually begins in tradition. This handed down from generation to generation till it is accepted as truth, loses nothing in detail, but rather expands as the years roll on, like the story of the three crows. Those who love to delve in memories of the past, delight in unravelling the tangled skeins and in



sifting the true from the false, even though as the testimony of the rocks has upset the cherished traditions of centuries, it may result in the destruction of beliefs that have become dear to us. Freeman, in his invaluable History of Cape Cod, touches lightly on local traditions and expresses his disinclination to upset them, but sooner or later the truth must be told, that tradition may die and history be established. The following may be considered as an authentic history of the different coats of arms purporting to belong to the Nye family.

Following the Revolution there seems to have been a craze concerning heraldry and it was the proper thing for families of the early settlers to have their individual coat of arms. Among those who took up the furnishing of such as a means of livelihood; we find one, John W. Coles, whose name appears in the Boston directory for 1800, and continues until 1813, his occupation being given as "Heraldic Painter." In 1806 and for some twenty years after, the name of John Coles, Jr., also appears therein. His occupation is given as a miniature and portrait painter, but there is very good evidence that he followed in addition the occupation of his father.

The Cole's paintings are quite readily distinguished by the form of the shield, the mantlings and particularly by the palm branches, and, so far as known, are all alike worthless, except as curiosities. Those who are farther interested may refer to the standard authority on American Heraldry, Wm. H. Whitmore, in his book, "The Elements of Heraldry," published at Boston in 1866. In it he discusses at length the Cole's paintings, beginning on page 75.

Among the prominent men of this period was Col. David Nye of North Falmouth, who resided on a part of the old Ebenezer Nye farm. He served in the Revolutionary Army as Sergeant in Captain Samuel Fish's Company of Colonel Freeman's Regiment. He afterwards served in the 1st Barnstable County Regiment of Militia as Captain from 1790 to 1796; as Lieut. Colonel to 1806; as Colonel to 1815. He was Justice of the Peace for fourteen years and Representative for a like length of time. His first wife was Deborah Nye. His second, Keziah Eldred, was a daughter of Joseph Eldred, fellow of New College, Oxford, a descendant of an old family in County Norfolk which had an armory granted in 1592.

These are facts. May I be pardoned if I now indulge in a little flight of imagination.





We must remember that Keziah was David's second wife and many years his junior. Is it unreasonable to suppose that she may have told David that he was barely eligible to attend her pink teas and that he should go way back and sit down? Or to conclude that David, wise man that he was, went back and thought and thought and that as a result the Boston directory was consulted? Let us now return to facts.

On the wall hangs a painting which is pointed to with pride, a coat of arms, half Nye, half Eldred. On the back may be found the following inscription: "He beareth azure on a bend enrailed, by the name of Nye, granted and confirmed to Sir Edward Nye of the Inner Temple, London, Bar't Anno. Dom. 1611, and descended from an ancient family in Norfolk.

He beareth or, on a bend raguly in base a martlet gules, beaked sable, which is the coat of Joseph Eldred, L.L. B. Fellow of New College in Oxford A. D., 1645, Boston, 3d, Feby., 1796, J.W. Coles, Heraldic Painter. Ine copy from Heraldry."

The deed is done and Coles is at work for others, while Mrs. David has a more resigned look, but Colonel David looks every inch a knight and wears his honors well. This, the original of all, the Cape Cod Coats of Arms, hangs still on the wall in North Falmouth where I examined it but last summer. The offshoots of this work are many but differ in detail only. One has supporters in the shape of an animal on each side, another has the French motto, "*Mon esperance est dans ciel.*" As to the former it is only necessary to say the right to bear supporters applies only to a peer of the realm and dies with him, unless extended by special grant. It is too bad to expose Colonel David's deed although it served him well during his life time and made him a centre of interest at Mrs. David's functions, but, there never was any family by the name of Nye in Norfolk, neither was there ever a Sir Edward Nye Bar't on the Rolls of Inner Temple; nor, what is more to the point, was there ever any Nye coat of arms whatever granted in Great Britain. Randolph Nye, from whom the American Nyes are descended, settled in Sussex County, England, in 1527. He was a son of Bertolf Nye of Tudse, Holbeck Bailiwick, Sjelland section of Denmark. The Danish Nyes bore, as armory, the coat of arms described in heraldic terms in my address at the first reunion at Sandwich. The authority for this I can give, but, as it is in Danish, I omit it here to save linguistic perplexities. Should anyone desire it I will give it when my notes are accessible, otherwise I could





hardly approximate the correct spelling. The shield of this only authentic Nye coat of arms is what is termed "couche" and belongs to the period of the 12th and 13th centuries and was used when the helmet, or helmet and crest, were represented. When these were omitted the shield stood upright, in flat-iron shape, the difference in shape of the shield always indicating its approximate age, as it changed from time to time. The different encyclopedias will give concise information on the subject—if more is needed.

In conclusion let me say, that, in my opinion, the greatest distinction the family can derive from the past is in its colonial and revolutionary history, which is equaled by but few of our old American families.

A quartet consisting of Mrs. Brush, Miss Palmer, Mr. Leonard and Mr. Shad, sang a very pretty selection, "Drink to Me Only with Thine Eyes," after which Mr. Henry A. Belcher moved a vote of thanks to our Marietta friends, in these words,—

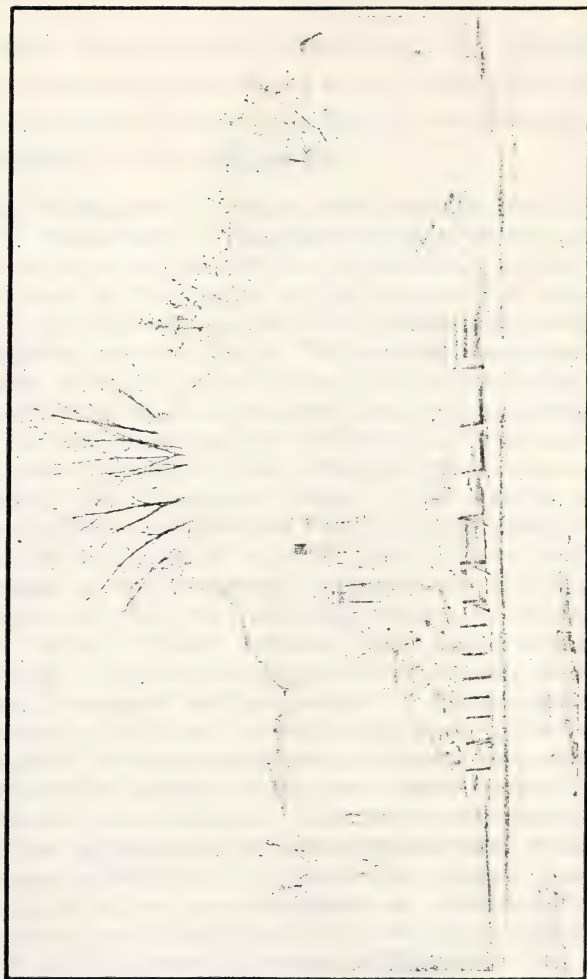
"To the members of the Family in Ohio we desire to express our thanks for their generous hospitality, especially to those in Marietta and to our generous and wholesouled host, Mr. James W. Nye; also to Miss Mary C. Nye, whose untiring work at this time and in the past, has contributed so much towards the success of our Association; and to Mrs. Towne and Mrs. Brush who have so generously given the musical entertainment which has contributed so largely in making this third Reunion so successful; and again, to all who have in any way contributed toward our entertainment, we wish to express our sincere thanks."

Mr. Belcher's motion was unanimously carried.

Mr. William L. Nye, followed by addressing the chair, in these words,—

"Mr. President, I have a great deal to say but I have not time to say it. We have been here with the Marietta people for the past three days and we have been so highly entertained, that we feel as if we were at our own hearth stones. When I speak in this way I speak feelingly, as I know I speak for all the Nye Family in this city today. We have had a grand time and the





1. Home of Col. Ichabod Nye.
2. Part of No. 2 was in the old fort Campus Martius, built on the West line.  
Property and residence of Hon. Arius Nye 1825-65.





meetings have been so good that the wish is strong in the heart of every member of the Family here that these meetings be continued, whether the next Reunion is next summer or the year following or at any other time. I am here to extend to the Family the invitation to hold the next meeting at the home of their ancestors, at the old town of Sandwich."

Mrs. Isaac Cooke of Chillicothe, O. had the concluding paper of the morning, the subject being, "Hon. Arius Nye," another of the early members of the Family who became prominent in the affairs of his state and city.

MR. PRESIDENT, KINDRED, AND FRIENDS OF MARIETTA:—

St. Beuve says "Character is the sum of one's ancestors", and so important an element in the influences which go to make up character is this subtile and persistent one of heredity, that the first question which arises in the mind of the biographer in the study of any one's life is, "What were his antecedents?" As Judge Arius Nye's have been given to you before, it is not necessary to go back to the early history of his ancestors.

Arius Nye, the subject of this sketch, was born in the Fort at Marietta, December 27th, 1792, in the house occupied at that time by Mrs. Benjamin Tupper. He was the son of Colonel Ichabod Nye and Minerva Tupper. For the first five years of his life the Indian Wars of St. Clair, Harmar, and Wayne raged around the new settlement. Peace came with Wayne's treaty at Greenville; but the little colony struggled with every obstacle; his father, Colonel Ichabod Nye, was a man of indomitable energy, resolution and decision of character; his occupation was that of a tanner and shoemaker. As soon as he could be of service to his father, he was put to work in the bark mill of the tannery; he soon found his employment very monotonous. The educational facilities in the early pioneer days of the Northwest Territory were limited. As the first settlement was here and all the region around a vast wilderness over which the Indians roamed at will, the introduction of schools was slow and the facilities at hand were such only as permitted the acquirement of elementary knowledge of the common branches.

Arius Nye started to school at the age of five, in the Northwest corner of the block-house on the "Stockade." All the subsequent education he received at the various schools merely enabled him to master the rudiments of the English branches.



Communication with the Eastern States was difficult, and the establishment of Academies was delayed for some years. Arius Nye, having a strong desire for learning beyond the advantages offered in those early pioneer schools, by diligent study and close application, educated himself liberally in the English language and became a fair Latin scholar, with some assistance from a private tutor. Whatever else he acquired was through his own exertions. He was, in the strict sense of the term, a self taught man. His whole life was devoted to study; he was a lover of books, the first half dollar he could call his own was laid out for a book; they were a source of pleasure to him. He was a zealous student, and his writings show, that he was able to express himself with elegance and precision. Bacon says, "reading maketh a full man, conference a ready man, and writing an exact man."

While yet a boy he was sent by his father to the town of Springfield, as it was then called, (afterwards in 1815 named Putnam and now Zanesville), to engage in mercantile business. Before he had attained his majority he was elected a director in the "Muskingum Bank," at Putnam. In July, 1814, Arius Nye became the partner of his father in the firm of "I. and A. Nye." It was while here in Putnam that he made the acquaintance of Rowena Spencer, daughter of Dr. Joseph Spencer of Vienna, West Virginia, whom he afterwards married in 1815.

Merchandising was not a congenial pursuit for him at any time. The loss of a cargo of merchandise by the sinking of a boat (Jefferson's Embargo Act) afforded a good excuse for abandoning the business, as no part of the loss was covered by insurance. This circumstance, together with his indisposition to make traffic his life work, induced him to leave off at once and take up the study of law. He read a course of law and was admitted to the bar at Zanesville about 1818 or 1819. After several years of practice there, he was induced by his Uncle, General Edward Tupper, to remove to Gallipolis. At that time (about 1823) the so-called sickly season along the Ohio Valley, carried off a large percentage of the population, among them General Edward Tupper. The fever became an epidemic—first his wife, then his children, and lastly himself, were prostrated. Discouraged by so much calamity, he returned to Marietta and opened a law office in a brick building adjoining the marble yard at that time. During the entire winter of 1824-25 he never had *one professional call*; he was employed to prepare but a single





brief, and that for another lawyer. Colonel John Mills, acting for the Trustees of the town and township of Marietta, gave him a case, in which he had an opportunity to signalize his skill as a jurist and advocate. There had been considerable pecuniary defalcations, and Arius Nye was retained to secure what was due the body politic. The matter was decided in favor of the Trustees. An appeal to the Supreme Court resulted in a re-affirmation of the decision of the courts below. This proved of no small consequence to his future professional success. In 1826 his name was proposed to the Ohio Legislature as a candidate for President Judge in the Marietta circuit. He failed of election by one vote only. In 1827 or 1828 Arius Nye was chosen a representative in the General Assembly from Washington County. Three years later he was returned as a State Senator. While performing these duties, he was, the greater part of the time, Prosecuting Attorney. His labors were incessant, and far too arduous for his bodily strength. In 1840 he was named in the Whig Convention for Congress; he failed to receive the nomination. Much against his own wishes, his name was placed upon the Whig Ticket, during the same year, for Representative; he was chosen by a large majority. At the opening of the session, he called the house to order, an office which, until then, had always been performed by the Clerk.

It was during this session of the Legislature that he, as Chairman of the Appropriate Legislative Committee, framed the bill for the incorporation of the State Bank of Ohio, and branches. Owing to a Democratic majority in the Senate, it then failed of becoming a law, but was subsequently taken up, and after some amendments, enacted into law by the General Assembly; the same measure in nearly every feature, was, some years after, copied by the State of Iowa. No safer or sounder system of paper-money banking could have been devised. To him, in a great measure, belongs the credit of its paternity. When the party issue of "banks or no banks" was before the people of Ohio, 41—44, John Brough and Samuel Medary used to call the proposed State Bank by the humorous title of "Nye's Sow and Pigs." In 1847 Arius Nye was elected President Judge, for the 8th Judicial Circuit, which then embraced the Counties of Washington, Morgan, Athens, Meigs, Gallia, Lawrence, and Scioto. It was incumbent on him to hold twenty-one terms in a year, and to reach the County seats, he was compelled to ride horseback. Such labors were too great for any man, and two





years later the Legislature cut off the counties of Lawrence and Scioto, and annexed them to the judicial district immediately adjoining. Judge Nye remained on the bench until July, 1850; his health, never robust, gave way and he resigned. From this time forth, he never sought nor accepted, public trusts. He was not idle however. As a lawyer, Judge Nye continued to give attention to the cases brought to his notice; he was foremost in whatever he thought would conduce to the public good. As a jurist he ranked among the first Chancery and Criminal lawyers of the West. He was deeply read in the learning of the profession, and thoroughly imbued with the lofty spirit of the Great Masters. In him, the weak, the unfortunate, and the oppressed, always found a friend and a counselor;—the guilty, *never*.

Judge Nye was always a leading citizen, until the "weight of years" crept upon him. He was one of the movers in establishing the "Marietta Collegiate Institute" (which preceded the College proper, Chartered in 1835), drew up its Charter and was one of its Trustees. He may be said to be the founder of St. Lukes Episcopal Church in this city; he was appointed lay-reader for the Parish by Bishop Chase in January, 1826, continued to discharge the duties appertaining to the position until the Parish secured a Rector. In 1835, when the Church was erected at the corner of 4th and Scammel Streets, (and a fine one for that day), he was the prime mover in the building and furnishing of the Church and did more for it than any other man. In the early days of St. Luke's, Judge Nye was leader in the singing, his seat was near the chancel, and when a chant or hymn was to be sung he would step forward to the chancel rail and, in a firm, clear voice, lead the congregation, never failing to strike the right pitch. Very little Anthem music was attempted in those days; after a choir was organized Judge Nye continued to sing; upon one occasion an Anthem was attempted beyond the Choir's ability to sing it, Judge Nye took the principal part and when in the midst of it, first one and then another dropped out until finally he alone was the only one singing,—being like the Chorister in Irving's Christmas, "wrapt up in his own melody," he had not noticed that the other voices had dropped out and that he alone finished the Anthem. He remarked after the service, "We got through with that in very good style."

Judge Nye was one of the founders of the Marietta Library. His home, a part of the old "Stockade," was for many years the



abode of hospitality ; I might say "kept open house" ; for here it was he entertained men of honor and distinction ; the poor and feeble were accorded the same, *all* were made to feel the grasp of his hand, for all were his friends. In this hospitable home his first wife died, and about five years later he brought his second wife, Caroline M. Sisson of New Port, R. I.

At the time of his death Judge Nye had obtained a wider celebrity than any other man living in Marietta at that time.

A friend in his sketch of Judge Nye at the time of his death used a singularly faithful outline of what he was in the words of an American Poet, and, with them, I close this sketch.

"A keen perception of the right :—  
A lasting hatred of the wrong,—  
An arm that failed not in the fight,—  
A spirit strong,—

Arrayed him with the weak and low ;  
No matter what the opposing power,  
And gave terror to his blow  
In battle's hour.

He asked no leader in the fight,  
No times, nor season sought to know,  
But when convinced his cause was right,  
He struck the blow.

Man had his sympathies,—not men,  
The whole he loved and not a part ;  
And to the whole he gave his pen,  
His years, his heart."

At this point Mr. James W. Nye read several letter from friends addressed to the Association. They were from Col. Reuben L. Nye, Los Angeles, Cal.; Mr. Charles N. Nye, Los Angeles; Miss Helena M. Nye, Los Angeles; W. F. Dana, Cooperstown, Pa.; T. D. Dale, Chicago, Ill.; Lawrence Nye Dana, Joplin, Mo.; Edward B. Dana, Muskingum, Mich.; George Lewis Nye, St. Paul, Minn.; Henry Wood Nye, Cincinnati, O.; Harry L. Nye, Colorado Springs, Colo.; Simeon Nash Nye, Colorado Springs, Colo. The family assembled were deeply





moved by the fraternal expressions of these absent members, and it is deeply regretted that these letters cannot appear in this book.

Mr. Nye, before taking his seat, requested Mrs. Daniel Hand Buell to come forward as he wished to introduce her little daughter, two months old, Miss Ellen Lewis Nye Buell, to the audience as the youngest, wee bit of a Nye, present. She is a direct descendant from the mother of Washington (through her daughter Betty, only sister of George.)

Upon the motion of Mrs. Belcher, which was unanimously carried, the baby was made an honorary member of the Association for this year and presented with a membership card.

The entire audience joined with the quartet in singing the hymn, "God be with you till we meet again." The meeting adjourned after this most fitting benediction, until three o'clock in the afternoon.

The last business meeting of the family began promptly at the appointed time. The President called for the reports of the committees. Mr. Henry A. Belcher, chairman of the Nominating Committee, recommended that the following persons be elected as officers of the Association for the ensuing year:

Hon. David J. Nye, Elyria, Ohio, President.

Mr. James L. Wesson, Boston, Mass., Vice-President.

Mrs. S. Curtis Smith, Newton, Mass., Secretary.

Mrs. Anna Nye Smith, Roxbury, Mass., Treasurer.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Mr. William L. Nye, *Chairman*, . . . Sandwich, Mass.

Mr. Charles H. Nye . . . . . Hyannis, Mass.

Mr. William F. Nye . . . . . Fairhaven, Mass.

Mrs. Henry A. Belcher . . . . . Randolph, Mass.

Mr. James W. Nye . . . . . Marietta, Ohio.

Mr. Everett I. Nye . . . . . Welfleet, Mass.

Mr. John W. Nye . . . . . Manchester, N. H.



Mrs. J. R. Holway . . . . . Sandwich, Mass.  
 Mr. Theodore D. Dale . . . . . Montclair, N. J.  
 Mr. Harold B. Nye . . . . . Cleveland, Ohio.

It was voted that the Secretary cast one ballot for the officers nominated, which she did, and they were declared elected.

The President-elect took the opportunity to express to the Association his high appreciation of the honor conferred upon him.

A vote of thanks was extended to the executive officers of last year.

It was voted that the Honorary Vice-Presidents be appointed by the Executive Committee. The following members of the Association accepted the office :

Mrs. William J. Bampffield . . . . . Kingston, Ontario.  
 Mr. Robert W. Thompson . . . . . Middletown, Conn.  
 Col. Reuben L. Nye . . . . . Los Angeles, Cal.  
 Col. Artemus F. Nye . . . . . Denver, Colo.  
 Mr. Emerson H. Brush . . . . . Elmhurst, Ill.  
 Mrs. M. A. Penfield . . . . . Brunswick, Ga.  
 Mr. M. M. Nye . . . . . Crawfordsville, Ind.  
 Rev. Charles L. Nye . . . . . Des Moines, Iowa.  
 Mr. J. E. Nye . . . . . Auburn, Me.  
 Mr. Carroll A. Nye . . . . . Moorhead, Minn.  
 Mrs. Hershel Bartlett . . . . . St. Joseph, Mo.  
 Mr. Ray Nye . . . . . Fremont, Neb.  
 Mr. I. Frank Stevens . . . . . Concord, N. H.  
 Mr. William Jackson . . . . . Newark, N. J.  
 Dr. E. Nye Hutchinson . . . . . Charlotte, N. C.  
 Mr. Robett E. Nye . . . . . Orwell, Ohio.  
 Dr. Fremont Nye . . . . . Westerly, R. I.  
 Rev. Elmer I. Nye . . . . . Georgia, Vt.  
 Mr. Benjamin F. Nye . . . . . Carrollton, Wash.  
 Mr. F. H. A. Nye . . . . . West Salem, Wis.  
 Miss Ellen R. Nye . . . . . Champlain, N. Y.

Mrs. Belcher, chairman of the Committee on the Monument



Fund, had no report to make; she said thus far she had received seventy-five dollars, and should be glad to accept contributions from every one, no matter how small nor how great. Every member of the Nye Family should take pride and interest in the erection of a monument to Benjamin Nye and his wife Katharine. It is the desire of the Committee to dedicate the monument at the reunion next summer. All contributions to this fund are to be sent to Mrs. Henry A. Belcher, Randolph, Mass.

The question in regard to the next reunion, and where it should be held, was then discussed. Three invitations had been received by the Association: one from Los Angeles, Cal.; another from St. Paul, Minn.; a third from Sandwich, Mass. Upon motion of Mr. Harold B. Nye of Cleveland, Ohio, it was voted that the invitation from Mr. William L. Nye of Sandwich, be accepted with thanks, time of meeting to be arranged by the Executive Committee.

Upon motion of Mrs. Belcher, it was voted that the Secretary write to those who had extended an invitation to the Association, and thank them for their hospitality, and express the hope that we might meet with them at some future time.

Upon motion of Mr. Belcher, it was voted to publish the proceedings of this meeting in full in pamphlet form and that the number of copies be limited to two hundred, unless the demand should be sufficient to justify the Secretary in ordering more. It was unanimously carried.

It was also voted that the matter of publishing the book be left in the hands of the Secretary and Mr. S. Curtis Smith.

Mrs. Rowena Nye Cooke of Chillicothe moved that the oak—emblem of strength—should predominate in the decorations used by the Nye Family Association. After some discussion, in which its use at the reunions at Sandwich was commended, it was unanimously passed by a rising vote.

Our local committee, in arranging a program for this reunion,





prepared for every emergency. If the afternoons had been stormy so the guests could not enjoy the pleasure trips planned for them, Mrs. Theodore F. Davis, Mrs. Marie Nye Buell, Mrs. Daniel C. McKay, Mrs. Rowena N. Brown, Mrs. Minerva Nye Nash, Mrs. George Preston, Miss Sella R. Leonard and Mr. Henry W. Nye, had prepared papers to read.

It was voted that these valuable papers become the property of the Association, to be read at the next reunion, (with the consent of the writers) as the Association may determine.

On motion of Mr. James W. Nye, it was voted that all matters that may be overlooked in this meeting, should be left with the Executive Committee with full power to act. By vote also the publishing of the names and addresses of the Association was left to the discretion of the same Committee.

After much business had been transacted the last meeting of the reunion was adjourned.

Besides the interesting literary exercises, the fine musical entertainments, and the important business transactions, there were many hours devoted to social functions. There were teas, dinner parties, country club luncheons, drives, tally-ho and launch parties, with visits to historical houses and points of interest; but the most brilliant event was the reception tendered on the last evening by Hon. and Mrs. Theodore F. Davis, in honor of the members of the Nye Family, at their beautiful home. Representatives of the Nye Family from all parts of the Union were present, together with the local members of the family and their personal friends, chiefly among the older residents of Marietta. A bountiful collation was served, the decorations of flowers in all the rooms tastefully arranged, and the Japanese lanterns on the porches and the lawn, presented a lovely scene on this ideal evening.

The memory of the third reunion will have an abiding place in the hearts of all who attended.



- Nye, Walker H., Marietta, O.  
 Nye, Mrs. A. Spencer, Chillicothe, O.  
 Nye, Miss Eudora, Chillicothe, O.  
 Nye, Miss Virginia S., Chillicothe, O.  
 Nye, Joseph S., Chillicothe, O.  
 Nye, Miss Mary P., Columbus, O.  
 Nye, Mrs. L. C., Athens, O.  
 Nye, George, Chillicothe, O.  
 Nye, Dr. Geo. B., Waverly, O.  
 Nye, Harold B., Cleveland, O.  
 Nye, Mrs. Emma Cnrtis, Cleveland, O.  
 Nye, Miss Margaret F., Cleveland, O.  
 Nye, Miss Katherine B., Cleveland, O.  
 Nye, Harold C., Cleveland, O.  
 Nye, Judge David J., Elyria, O.  
 Nye, Mrs. David J., Elyria, O.  
 Nye, David F., Elyria, O.  
 Nye, Horace H., Elyria, O.  
 Nye, Don C., Chauncey, O.  
 Nye, Geo. Harvey, Chauncey, O.  
 Nye, Frederick A., Chauncey, O.  
 Nye, Robert E., Orwell, O.  
 Nye, John G., Orwell, O.  
 Nye, Frederick G., Cambridge, O.  
 Nye, Stewart J., Cambridge, O.  
 Nye, Kendrick D., Cambridge, O.  
 Nye, F. G., Edenboro, Pa.  
 Nye, Miss Minerva Tupper,  
     New York City.  
 Nye, Benjamin H., Carrollton, Wash.  
 Nye, Miss Carol B., Auburn, N. Y.
- Nye, Miss A. Jean, Auburn, N. Y.  
 Nye, Miss Maud E., Auburn, N. Y.  
 Nye, Wm. F., Fairhaven, Mass.  
 Nye, Wm. L., Sandwich, Mass.  
 Nye, Mrs. Wm. L., Sandwich, Mass.  
 Nye, Miss Abbie F., Sandwich, Mass.  
 Nye, Miss Elizabeth E.,  
     Wareham, Mass.  
 Nye, Rev. Elmer I. Georgia, Vt.  
 Nye, Mrs. Elmer I. Georgia, Vt.  
 Oldham, Mrs. Betty Washington,  
     Washington, D C.  
 Pattee, Mrs. J. H., Monmouth, Ill.  
 Potts, Mrs. Fannie Nye, Zanesville, O.  
 Randall, Mrs. D. D., Monmouth, Ill.  
 Rupp, Mrs. Helen Nye,  
     Monmouth, Ill.  
 Smith, S. Curtis, Newton, Mass.  
 Smith, Mrs. S. Curtis, Newton, Mass.  
 Smith, Rev. W.W., Coffeyville, Kans.  
 Soule, Mrs. N. T., Middleboro, Mass.  
 Sproat, Mrs. Martha N., Chillicothe, O.  
 Sproat, Miss Martha E., Chillicothe, O.  
 Stone, A. T., Belfre, O.  
 Stone, Mrs. Rowena N., Belfre, O.  
 Stone, Mrs. Nina Gates, Belfre, O.  
 Stone, Vernon, Belfre, O.  
 Stevenson, Mrs. A. F., Pittsburg, Pa.  
 Thompson, R. W., Middletown, Conn.  
 Towne, Mrs. H. N., Chillicothe, O.  
 Webster, Mrs. J. R., Monmouth, Ill.







# THE NYE FAMILY OF AMERICA

FOURTH REUNION  
SANDWICH, - MASS.

1906



THE  
Nye Family of America  
Association

*PROCEEDINGS OF THE FOURTH REUNION  
AT SANDWICH, MASS.,  
AUGUST EIGHTH, NINTH AND TENTH  
1906*

---

PRINTED BY  
THE J. W. STOWELL PRINTING CO.,  
FEDERALSBURG, MD.

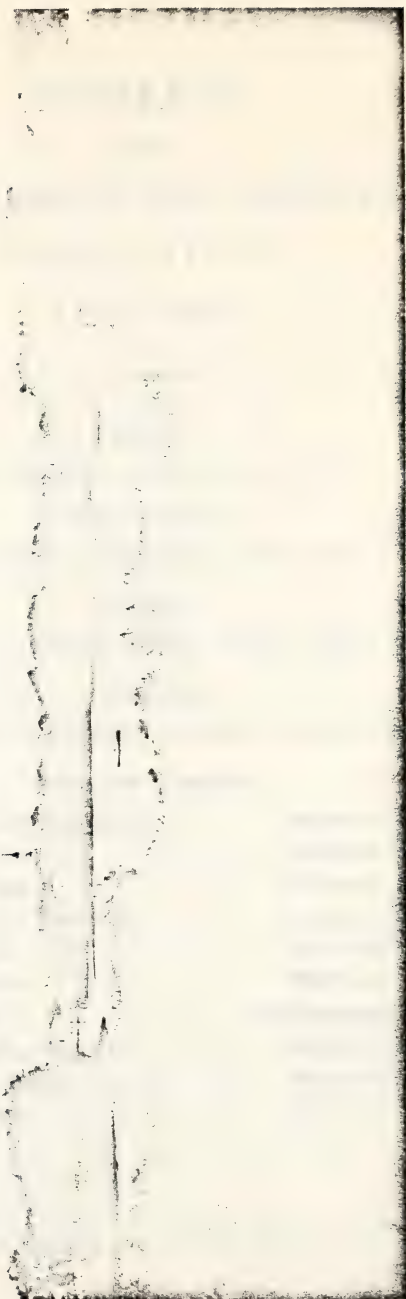


2/2/20

MR. AND MRS. S. CURTIS SMITH  
*Committee on Publication*







OLD CEMETERY ON SHAWME LAKE, SANDWICH, MASS.



OFFICERS  
OF THE  
NYE FAMILY OF AMERICA  
ASSOCIATION  
1905-1906

---

*President*

HON. DAVID J. NYE, Elyria, Ohio.

*Vice-President*

MR. JAMES L. WESSON, Boston, Mass.

*Secretary*

MRS. S. CURTIS SMITH, Newton, Mass.

*Treasurer*

MRS. ANNIE NYE SMITH, Littleton Common, Mass.

*Executive Committee*

WILLIAM L. NYE (Chairman)	Sandwich, Mass.
CHARLES H. NYE	Hyannis, Mass.
WILLIAM F. NYE	Fairhaven, Mass.
MRS. HENRY A. BELCHER	Randolph, Mass.
JAMES W. NYE	Marietta, Ohio.
EVERETT I. NYE	Wellfleet, Mass.
JOHN W. NYE	Manchester, N. H.
MRS. JEROME R. HOLWAY	Sandwich, Mass.
THEODORE D. DALE	Montclair, N. J.
HAROLD B. NYE	Cleveland, Ohio.





## PROCEEDINGS

---

**THE** descendants of Benjamin Nye who settled at Sandwich, Mass., in 1637 held their Fourth Reunion in that historic town, August eighth, ninth and tenth, 1906.

This Reunion was of great interest to all. Many new faces were seen among the kindred who have attended each annual gathering.

The exercises were held in the First Parish Church, which stands on the site of the original church where Benjamin Nye and his family worshipped. Some of his descendants, through each generation to the present day, have been found among its loyal supporters.

“ These old church steps have echoed the tread  
Of many Pilgrim feet,  
From homes, some far, some near, they come  
For prayer and praise most sweet.”

In front of the pulpit was a beautiful wreath made of oak leaves. In the center was a large gilt letter “N”. It had previously been voted that the oak—emblem of strength—should predominate in the decorations used by the Nye Family Association. Flowers and ferns added to the artistic effect. Throughout the meetings, many of the families of the town, linked with the Nye family by marriage ties or intimate social relations, attended the exercises.

The President, Hon. David J. Nye of Elyria, Ohio, called



the first session of the Convention to order on the afternoon of August, the eighth, at 3 o'clock.

After the organ prelude by Miss Frances Hope Kerr, a prayer was offered by Rev. Milton R. Kerr, the pastor of the parish. The following appropriate hymn was sung by the audience:—

HYMN,—TUNE "WEBB"

The winds and waves were roaring :  
The Pilgrims met for prayer :  
And here, their God adoring,  
They stood in open air.  
When breaking day they greeted  
And when its close was calm,  
The leafless woods repeated  
The music of their psalm.

Not thus, O God, to praise Thee,  
Do we their children throng :  
The temple's arch we raise Thee  
Gives back our choral song.  
Yet on the winds that bore Thee  
Their worship and their prayers  
May ours come up before Thee  
From hearts as true as theirs !

What have we, Lord, to bind us,  
To this the Pilgrims' shore ?—  
Their hill of graves behind us,  
Their watery way before,  
The wintry surge that dashes  
Against the rocks they trod,  
Their memory and their ashes,—  
Be thou their guard, O God !

We would not, Holy Father,  
Forsake this hallowed spot,  
Till on that shore we gather  
Where graves and griefs are not ;  
The shore where true devotion  
Shall rear no pillared shrine,  
And see no other ocean  
Than that of love divine.

—*John Pierpont.*



The President introduced Mr. William L. Nye of Sandwich, who gave the address of welcome. He was the First President of the Association and has each year since been the Chairman of the Executive Board. The following is the third address of welcome he has delivered from this same place to the Nye Family Association:

MR. PRESIDENT,

AND MEMBERS OF THE NYE FAMILY OF AMERICA:

It gives me great pleasure to greet you again at this the fourth reunion of this Association.

Once more we have gathered together within these sacred walls, made so by the many memories of the past, that cluster around them, to renew old acquaintances and friendships, and extend the kindly greeting to those who for the first time tread the pathways in the land of their ancestors.

We have met again that we may learn more of the history of those who in the perilous times of the past braved all dangers and privations that they might establish a government whose foundation was placed on the solid rock of justice and right, a government that their children would ever love and cherish.

There is so much of interest attached to the history of the earlier days, though we may read it again and again, there is always something new and pleasing. "An oft told tale but never old."

In these later days we are anxious to know something of our ancestry, who and what we are; to be able to trace our lineage back to the original founder and Father of the Family. One writer says: "To trace lineage—to love and record the names and actions of those without whom we could never have been, who moulded and made us what we are, and whom the very greatest of us all must know to have propagated influences into his being which must subtly but certainly act upon his whole conduct in this world. All this is implied in Ancestry and the love of it, and it is natural and good." And the good Book says: "A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children." Tell your children of it and let your children





tell their children and their children to another generation.

Today we meet again in the home of our ancestors. You have returned to the old hearth-stone, as it were, of those whose memory you love and revere. Long years have intervened since the fathers passed away, but they have left behind bright and shining marks all along the Highway and lanes of this old town. Were they stern in their demeanor, or narrow in their ideas; did they seem harsh in their decisions of what was right and just, we must remember it was their environment that made them so. They toiled hard early and late midst many hardships and trials, and perhaps that in a measure made them the harsh, unrelenting Pilgrims they were. They, with their wives, must early have realized that it was only through many trying experiences and much suffering that they could make this then dreary wilderness blossom like the rose.

Today it seems but natural that we should turn our thoughts back to the early days when this old town was but a wilderness; where the sturdy oak and pine, whose mighty branches were swayed by the breezes that swept across the land—here where the wild Indian claimed ownership of all that was in sight. Our thoughts will even wander back across the seas to Kent Co., old England. In imagination we see a lad of fifteen bidding farewell to home and friends, about to brave a long voyage to try his fortunes in the New World. Perhaps, at night when treading alone the vessel's deck, with eyes cast heavenward, watching the starry dome, and the pale moon as it cast its silvery rays across the expanse of waters, a feeling of sadness came over him as he may have thought of home and all it held dear to him. But his hand had been "put to the plough and there was no turning back."

We see the same lad again in the town of Saugus with a few shillings in his pocket, join the little group who were preparing to march toward the place which was to become their future homes. We can almost see the little band wending their way along the various paths toward the little hamlet of Sandwich. Some were on foot; some, the women and children, on horseback, for there were no carriages in those days. "It is supposed that men, women and children with their cattle, came



along the Indian trail and would get their first view of their new home somewhere at the curve of the Cape, in the neighborhood of the present meeting house in Sagamore.

Some preparations had been made beforehand for the reception of these Pilgrim families, probably some temporary booths as the sheds were sometimes called in the old records. Farms had been allotted to each proprietor, and each would go to his own as soon as possible.

It is supposed that it was near the month of September when this company arrived at the place of its destination. Cold winter was coming on, and we are all well aware of the rigor of the New England winter. Their dwelling places were illy prepared for the inclemency of the winter. The cold blast of the wintry winds, with driving sleet and snow, and above all the nightly roar of old ocean, as it rolled its angry wave along its sandy shores, had no terror for these brave souls—descendants of the hardy Dane and Norwegian.

The spring opens and the merry ring of the woodman's axe may be heard felling the Kings of the forest. A place for home and for tilling the soil must be cleared,—a little corn planted for soon the year would pass away bringing the same hard winter for which they must be better prepared, securing warmer homes, so that the women and little ones would have some little comforts in the barren land.

But time is passing away and the lad of fifteen has arrived at manhood's stature. We find him taking unto himself a helpmate. That lad was Benj. Nye, that helpmate Katherine Tupper. We know nothing of his boyhood days, but it is fair to presume that he was the same as other boys. He may have been one of those the men whipped for leaving church before benediction was over, or yawned during the long sixty minute prayer. As a man and citizen he took an active part in all the affairs of this town. That he was a strong, hard working, frugal man is shown in the manner in which he became an extensive land holder. He owned tracts of land in Sandwich, Falmouth and Middleboro. If his name is not written high on the pedestal of fame, we do know there are none to reproach him. He lived the life of an honored and respected





citizen, and when the time came that old age unfitted him for active service, he retired to the home of his son Jonathan, at East Sandwich, a lovely spot nestled down behind the hills. As the little streamlet that flows silently by its door, so his soul passed quietly through the shadow on to join the vast majority that had gone before.

The early settlers of whom our ancestors were a part were men of sterling worth. They have ever been a progressive people, searching out for something new. No crowded mart for them. They must have elbow room, and when this was denied, you find them pressing on to newer fields of operations. It was this same spirit that inspired the little band with Ichabod Nye, with his wife and babe, to sail down the Ohio to the Muskingum, and found the city of Marietta.

One year ago we walked through the streets of that beautiful city and with pride we noted the walks all along the way recording deeds of valor done. At Tolland, it was the same, and in all places where they pushed themselves to the front.

Travel the wide world over and you find the same spirit in the hardy frontiersman that pervades our fathers, and as we remember them, can we not truly say: "The example they have left is one we should copy." The high standard they attained we can strive for.

Friends, during your tarry here you will visit again, or for the first time, the many places only of interest to a Nye. You will stand by the flowing stream and say, "here is the spot where father Benjamin builded his mills." The stream still flows on, and all there is left for you is a memory. You will climb the hill tops and gaze upon the beauties of this ancient village, as you may stand upon the wave-washed shore—you will look upon the blue waters of the bay, and know that on its bosom our sires sailed the white winged messengers, and beneath its waters found the sustenance of life. You will look upon many a mossy house, once the home of a Nye. Here a John, a Jonathan, Ebenezer, Caleb and many others who dwelt beneath these roofs, and whom you are proud to acknowledge as your ancestors. We would not forget the home of Katherine. To-day it is occupied by the sons and daughters of sunny Italy.



The old house stands a relic of the past. What memories and secrets are crowded within its walls never to be revealed. There are silent cities scattered through this home of the Nye's and the ashes of your forefathers quietly repose therein.

Years and generations have passed since they laid down their armor, but their memories are fresh and sweet with you today. These gatherings tend to strengthen the tie that binds the present to the past. To the home of those who in the past, by their faithfulness to life's tasks have made possible the joy and pleasure we experience today, I welcome you.

I welcome you to these scenes and memories, and may you say it is good to be here.

In behalf of the Nye family of America, I welcome you to your sire's home.

### WELCOME TO THE CAPE

Mr. S. Curtis Smith of Newton, Mass., delivered the following welcome to the Cape:—

#### MR. PRESIDENT, AND MEMBERS OF THE NYE FAMILY:

You have heard the cordial welcome to Sandwich, the ancestral home of the family. It is my privilege to welcome you to the Cape, for whose welfare your ancestors had an interest and exerted an influence in the development of its history.

My acquaintance with it began in 1872, when I took charge of the High School of Yarmouth. I spent two years in that charming village, which have proved to be the happiest in my career as a teacher. The climate was wholesome; the people were intelligent, hospitable and generous. This auspicious beginning has been followed by the happy experiences of thirty-two summerings in this delightful town.

I am sorry to say, however, that strange ideas of the Cape are entertained by some who never saw it. I am told that a young man, attending one of its former private schools, expressed surprise on discovering that the girls were not web-footed, as he had been assured they were, to facilitate movement through the sands.



A short time before I left my home in Newton, a friend, who has seen most every section of the world, asked me if there are any green fields and fruitful gardens on the Cape, because of the sandy soil. Imagine, if you can, how a barren waste could be called the "right arm" of this prosperous Commonwealth by one of its most astute governors. Consider what that designation may signify.

When I took my first trip to the Cape, I stopped over night with an uncle who resided in Cambridge. On informing my relatives of my destination, they exclaimed, "What, down on the Cape where there is nothing but sand and mosquitoes?" I was not disturbed by the remark. But on retiring, I was ushered into a room containing a canopied bed, and when I heard the explicit instructions as to care in entering it, and that I must not thrust my hands nor kick my feet through its netting, I confess that I began to feel somewhat uneasy, for I had never experienced the necessity of seeking repose in such a cage or anything like it.

Having secured myself in the inclosure, as I thought, visions of the future and the disquieting hum of the hated insects banished all hope of peaceful slumber, and I was sorely tempted to break my engagement with the Yarmouth Committee, and lie to some clime where the mosquito troubleth not and the weary may find rest.

In the morning my face was a sight that would challenge the skill of a comic artist to produce a duplicate, for my fellow prisoners had vented their spite and satisfied their ravenous hunger on me.

Suffice it is to say, I heard no more suggestions from my solicitous relatives. They allowed me to depart with all the florid scars of the memorable struggle with that pestiferous though invisible enemy.

My experience convinces me that the Scriptural injunction in regard to "motes and beams" is susceptible of more than one application. Prejudice based entirely on ignorance and an undue self-complacency often prevent one's seeing the good in others or in their surroundings.

Every section of our country has its peculiar attractions.





Those who know them best can rejoice in them and can justly commend them. We would make no invidious comparisons. Nor are we disturbed by statements like those I have mentioned. We do, however, claim that the Cape possesses many natural charms that are worthy of careful consideration.

Mr. Joseph Jefferson, whose knowledge of art and the beauties of nature was extensive, was delighted with the scenery of our town. And he was no casual observer. It is significant that he should choose that quiet nook in yonder cemetery for his last resting place, now marked by that simple boulder, so symbolic of the strength and naturalness of his character.

To fully realize the charms of the Cape you should live on it for a time. But you can obtain glimpses of them in a short visit. You should stand on its hills that overlook the vales with their variegated shades and colors that blend so artistically with the greenish blue of the ocean's crest: you should walk on the beach when the "white caps" dance on the raging surf that breaks on the shore: you should hear the roar of the ocean after the stormy winds have stirred its billowy deep: you should see the far-extending green of the salt marshes, with their meandering creeks seeking outlets to the sea through the openings of the sand dunes: you should, if possible, take an automobile ride over the macadam roads that wind through picturesque dales that connect beautiful villages lying near the ocean's edge: you should see the well-kept lawns and elegant mansions commanding a fine view of the sea, that city frequenters have erected. I am sure you would be charmed with the varied fascinations and wonder how a place containing such Edens of enchantment could be renowned in the mind of any one only for sand heaps and mosquitoes.

The Cape is the birth-place of many intrepid navigators of the world's circumference; many leaders in finance and commercial affairs, whose names are honored in the principal marts of the world. It is one of the best health-giving localities of the state. It is distinguished for that kind of sand that is the essential element of strong characters, and its citizens have steadfastly adhered to the principles inculcated by their sturdy ancestors.



Thoreau, that cultured and world-wide traveler, declared that no other place of equal extent can show as much thrift, culture and enterprise as are found in the sixty odd miles of Cape Cod. It is to this place, so truthfully described, I have the pleasure of giving you a most hearty welcome.

Mr. A. S. Nye of Dorchester, Mass., then sang, "The Sweetest Flower that Grows," which was so heartily enjoyed by the audience that he responded to their enthusiasm by singing "My Lady's Eyes."

The President called upon Mr. Charles H. Nye of Hyannis, Mass., the originator of the idea of forming the Nye Family Association, and an ardent supporter of its interests. Mr. Nye responded in the following words:—

**MR. PRESIDENT,**

**LADIES AND GENTLEMEN OF THE NYE REUNION :**

I do not know what to say as I have said so much in times gone by. I said to one of my friends that wanted me to speak, "what shall I talk about?" And he told me to tell how I got up the Nye Reunion. It seems to me today that we are all fully satisfied with the Nye Reunion. Many of you here know what subject I shall talk about and that is Cornelius Nye of Fairfield, Me. When I went to see him he was 99 years old. I spent the day with him and he was very glad to see me. We were not acquainted but knew of each other through the papers. He knew I was a railroad man and had often heard my name mentioned. I talked with him on every subject I could think of. I asked him to give me a little history of his life. He said that he commenced poor, worked on the farm, taught school and led in prayer meetings and he said that today he was ready to live or ready to die. The old man never lived the year out which was his wish to live to be 100 years old.

I once read in the papers of a Joseph Warren Nye, a poet of Lynn. He was a good writer and I often read some of his writings. I went to see him once and spent a day there. I had never seen him before. He was 85 years old when I saw





him and was hale and hearty and I tried to get a book of his to have all my own. I went everywhere in search of one of his books but could not find one. I thought I would write to the old Library in Lynn and ask them if any writings of Joseph Warren Nye were published in book form. The lady there wrote me as follows—"I judge by the tone of your letter that you would like to have a book to keep but we do not sell them. We do not let them go but I will let you read it and when you are through with it return it to me," and so they sent me the book and I read it.

I would like to give you a good address but I cannot on account of my infirmities and on account of my age. I have got to be an old man and I now want the younger people of the name of Nye to take this thing up and carry it on so that this association will be as good a hundred years hence as it is today. This is my home and I think Sandwich is a great town. It is the place I love and it is a place that has honored me more than any other.

At the conclusion of his remarks, Mr. Nye asked Mr. Geo. H. Nye of Auburn, N. Y. to speak, but as he had a paper for the next day, he responded briefly to this request, as follows:—

This is quite unexpected and I do not know whether I can thank my old friend, Mr. Chas. H. Nye, whom I have known for a great many years through correspondence before I ever saw him, for putting me in this predicament. I have a great deal perhaps to say tomorrow, on which I have been at work for some time, of a historical nature. When it comes to impromptu remarks I am not used to firing a gun without first knowing it and I do not know that I can say a great deal.

At some time in the future I hope to gather together from the mass of correspondence which I have had, enough to write a book that may be entertaining in its nature because I have much that would be interesting. To show how links can be forged together in a chain and how an important link in itself may lead to the connecting of one's family history, I will simply give one instance out of the correspondence I have had. A



correspondent about three years ago wrote to me from the far west stating that she knew nothing about her family history, with the exception of an old family bible that was dated back early in the 17th century, giving the name of one of her ancestors and giving the word Abigail and the word Sangue, as she wrote it. The word Abigail referred to the ship upon which the early settlers of Sangus came to America. The word Sangue should have been Sangus which is now near the town of Lynn. From the name of the ancestor that she gave, with these two disconnected links, I have been able to give her a complete genealogy. I simply mention this to show how such things are put together.

Something was said by our first President about these sixty minute prayers and sermons and before we get through this reunion perhaps you might have had enough of them without my adding to them, so I will simply thank you for having asked me to address you.

After the distribution of programs the meeting adjourned till evening.

### WEDNESDAY EVENING

At eight o'clock the church was well filled by the family and their friends. Mr. James L. Wesson, Vice-President, presided. After the organ prelude by Miss Kerr, the chorus, under the direction of Mr. John G. Chipman, sang, "Weclome to the Nye Family." The words were composed by Mrs. Jerome R. Holway, a member of the Nye Family. The number was rendered in a very artistic manner and received the applause of the audience.

Hon. David J. Nye, the President of the Association, was introduced and read the following paper:—

### THE SPIRIT OF THE TIMES

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN AND KINDRED FRIENDS:

After a separation of another year we come together in the



place hallowed by the deeds of our ancestors. How grateful we should be that we can meet here in happy communion. We should rejoice that this association was formed and that we are permitted to know each other as kindred and friends. We owe a debt of gratitude to all who were instrumental in forming this association. It is the duty of every one of us to see to it that friendship, good feeling and harmony prevail among our members. So long as it does this society can and will be perpetuated.

We are concerned with the history of the past, the advancement of the present and the hope of the future. This is true not only of our kindred but of our country. As an association we ought to see that some of the more important deeds of our ancestors are recorded in permanent form. At this meeting the time is ripe and the opportunity is present to complete plans for the publication of the genealogy of our family. I bespeak for this movement a hearty interest from you all!

This monument proposed for our first ancestors, Benjamin Nye and Katherine Tupper, is worthy the serious consideration and the liberal contribution of every descendant of those early pioneers, who gave to us the name and prestige, we bear and cherish. We rejoice that so many of us have been permitted to participate in this worthy undertaking. In these times of prosperity every one ought to feel a due responsibility and able to have a share in the pleasure—not the burden of its erection. Something suitable to the occasion, the cause and the persons should be provided and erected. The gifts need not be large, far better that they be many, even though they be small. Our ancestors were among the common people; the members of our society are of the common people. The more persons that contribute to this enterprise, the more of our kindred will have an interest in it. All should be given an opportunity.

Our ancestors made the occasion; let our age and generation write the history and erect the monument. Our children and our children's children will read the history and gather around the monument in loving remembrance of us all.

We will now turn our attention for a few moments to the spirit of the times. Others will address you more particularly with reference to our family history.





I have already said that we are interested in the progress of our country and the advancement of the times. We live in a progressive age. The advancements made in the last half century are the marvel of the world. We live unnoticed and as we live we do not notice the things and events about us. The world moves on. Every invention, vocation, business, profession and calling goes forward. Science, religion, ethics and education are progressing. Men perform acts because they are impelled by a higher or lower motive. They do not always stop for a higher motive but some times for a selfish one.

Our ancestors left a country where there was oppression, for a land where they could have liberty of speech and a government of their own choice and selection. Kings were born to sit upon the throne. The power of the government was the king's ability to command his subjects.

The greatness of the American people is their simplicity. The bulwark of our government is the love which the common people have for the flag and our free institutions.

When a great crisis comes, humble, unknown men spring into prominence, as leaders and plebeians, as it were, come to the country's defense. When the unhappy hour came in 1861 that our southern brothers, through a misconception of their interests sought a separation of this lovely land, a leader was at hand.

The story of the life of Abraham Lincoln seems more like a romance than reality. He sprang from among the common people, raised up by the Almighty to save a nation and liberate a race. The common people came to his aid. Ten thousand bayonets reflected back ten thousand suns. Brothers met brothers on the battle-field till a nation was bathed in human blood. The nation was restored. Brothers were reconciled to brothers, and were reunited.

Abraham Lincoln represented a type. It might be said of him as it was of a marshal of France, raised from the common people. Some haughty nobles were taunting him of their long line of descent and their noble ancestry. He retorted by saying, "I am an ancestor, you are only descendants." This might be truthfully said of Lincoln. He sprang from the humblest orig-



in and rose to be a ruler,—or more properly a leader—of the greatest nation of the world. He was the ancestor. His mild and gentle ways fitted him to be called to the leadership of so great a people, whose greatness is in their simplicity.

Another crisis came in our Spanish-American troubles. When it came, a leader was at hand—arisen from a humble home in the person of William McKinley. He was inspired and moved on by the impulse of duty to his countrymen, whom he typified, and most fittingly represented. His proclamation of war was the most benevolent and humane the world has ever witnessed. It carried with it a contribution of fifty thousand dollars from our public treasury to feed and clothe the subjects of the very nation against whom the war was declared. The whole Spanish war was carried on and concluded in a spirit of magnanimity and christianity.

When Commodore Dewey sailed into Manila Bay, and destroyed the Spanish fleet he took possession of the Philippine Islands as completely as ever conqueror took into his control his conquered territory.

Then followed the complete destruction and annihilation of Admiral Cerveres' fleet just let loose from the harbor of Santiago. This with the march up San Juan Hill gave the United States complete control of Cuba.

After these victories the American people, at the expense of the nation, voluntarily conveyed the Spanish army back to Spain, and gave that government, then tottering under an enormous debt, if not near the verge of bankruptcy, the munificent sum of \$20,000,000 for the Philippine Islands. As conquerors they were not bound to give that or any other sum, but it was done as an act of humanity.

Cuba was given her independence—Porto Rico was granted a government suited to the condition of the people, and the Philippine Islands were taken under the guiding hand of the United States with all the advantages of self government of which the people are capable. All are receiving an education to fit them for self government.

This new and first republic has been teaching the old world and all nations lessons of patriotism, devotion to country and





fair dealing with all mankind. We have become the peace-maker of warring nations and of all nations.

So long as our nation is guided by its present leaders and citizens: so long as reason guides us in the affairs of State: so long as we continue to have the welfare of the world at heart: so long as our armies are enlisted from the common people; the lands, the seas, the islands and all the inhabitants may expect and will receive the fairest and kindest treatment from our republic.

The world looks to us for a fair and Christian guidance. We are teaching the brotherhood of nations.

What a contrast between the policy of our country and that of Russia. The latter is ruled by oppression and coercion, our own by love of country and benevolence to all mankind.

Today the Russian government is on the verge of revolution. The throne is tottering. The Czar sits over a threatened eruption that will hurl him from power. His people must and will have more liberty and more free government. They have read, and are daily learning, of our own Republic. If the Czar does not give them a more liberal and representative government they will usurp the power and form a government, perhaps a republic. It may not be till after much innocent blood is shed, but it will come.

The world is growing better. the common people are becoming educated. They can not longer be kept in darkness, nor in subjugation. They will be free.

Our own country is now stirred to its very center by criminal prosecutions for the violation of laws against trusts and rebates and railroads. These violations are against the rights of the masses. It is becoming a question as to whether great corporations, trusts and railroads are to control or whether the governments, state and national, are to be obeyed. If the men who are elected to office are honest and able, I have no fears as to the result. The governments are mighty and must prevail in the hands of upright and capable men. When we read of legislators who are susceptible of being purchased, well may we have occasion to fear for our country. But in time the people will rise up and demand of their representatives in the halls of legislation, credentials of integrity.



What of members of a legislature passing laws against crime with unholy money in their possession? What sincerity is there in men enacting laws against the use of passes with passes in their pockets?

It would be far better to change the order of things and have laws enacted requiring every railroad company in the land to give to every legislator and every public officer a pass or free transportation over its road to any place where such officer was required to go to perform his official duties. The government, state and national, furnish to every railroad company franchises, charters and legal protection. For these privileges, railroads should be required to furnish something in return. They are public servants. They can take your property under the law of eminent domain without your consent, paying you therefor what a jury say it is worth; not what you think is its value, or what you may ask.

This is a right no private citizen has. Let them give something substantial in return. Instead of making it odious for public officers to receive passes, make it honorable. The stigma would then be removed and what the legislator and officer now receive as favors, they would receive as their just dues for honest service faithfully rendered.

In colonial days large fortunes were unknown. As the country improves and becomes more wealthy, individuals amass princely fortunes.

Those who have been so fortunate as to accumulate great wealth are sometimes criticised and even censured. Why this censure and criticism? Many times it is because the critic has attempted to get great accumulations and failed. He is jealous of his more fortunate brother because of his success. The wealthy man and the millionaire should not be criticised if he has gained his fortune legitimately and honestly. He is just as much entitled to it as the man of moderate means is entitled to his smaller amount of property.

Within the past few days the multimillionaire, Russell Sage, died leaving his entire fortune to be distributed by his wife to charity as she shall think best. It is not the amount, it is the use to which it is put, that to some extent determines the





philanthropy of the possessor. Is it not unwise to attack and censure the wealthy for their large possessions? Would it not be far better to encourage them to use their means for benevolent, charitable and philanthropic purposes?

The endowment of colleges; the establishment of libraries; the erection of homes for the youth; the establishment of places of abode for the aged and unfortunate, are among the useful and worthy objects to which the rich can and are devoting their means. Why not encourage the gifts? We cannot have too many of them, if the means are properly and judiciously expended and used.

In all these instances the funds are placed in the hands of worthy Christian men and women to be expended and controlled for the institutions and charities proposed and named. Certainly no wrong can come from such a use of wealth. I only wish there might be more of the gold of the country and world used in these ways. In the language of the poet,

"I wish—a common wish indeed,—"  
My purse were somewhat fatter,  
That I might cheer the child of need,  
And not my pride to flatter,  
That I might make oppression reel,  
As only gold can make it,  
And break the Tryant's rod of steel,  
As only gold can break it."

The Christian people of this and other countries are trying to convert and Christianize the heathen world. Large amounts of money are being raised yearly to send missionaries to foreign lands. Much of this is given by those who are unable even to contribute from their scanty means.

It is only a few weeks ago that a goodly sum was offered by a man abundantly able to give. This offer was made after a careful investigation into the needs and worthiness of the cause. Was it accepted in the spirit in which it was offered?

Many of the leading divines of the country raised the cry that it was "tainted" money and should not be accepted. Just what is meant by "tainted" money I am not fully prepared to say, but if an investigation is to be made as to how every dollar





is earned that is put into the contribution box, I fear very many of the small contributions would either be found to be "tainted" or damned. The time spent in the investigation might be more valuable than the gift itself and the heathen might perish in the long delay. In my opinion the hundred thousand contributed by the rich man would do as much good and cause as little sacrifice as an equal amount given by the poor, and those in moderate circumstances. There has been a strong suspicion raised that those who attacked the giver had motives, other than the best interests of those who were to be benefitted by the gift. This leads us to remark that preaching is sometimes so much different from practicing, and that there is less sincerity than there ought to be. The poet has expressed my idea in so much more beautiful language than I can that I will use his words:

"I wish that friends were always true,  
And motives always pure :  
I wish the good were not so few,  
I wish the bad were fewer :  
I wish that parsons ne'er forgot,  
To heed their pious teachings :  
I wish that practicing was not  
So different from preaching."

I well remember that, when I was a boy, the Christian churches taught the doctrines of eternal punishment for all who were not converted. A more liberal doctrine is taught now, and those who do good and live a life of rectitude are advised that they may have a life hereafter. The Bible is now looked upon and taught more as a book of historical events or a masterpiece of literature than as a divine inspiration. Whether this is a matter of progression I leave for the ministry and theologians to decide. But it is a more pleasing doctrine to teach and more acceptable to mankind in general.

The preaching of today is more for the purpose of making mankind better. The enlightened preacher talks to educate, enlighten and instruct his congregation. His manner of preaching is entirely different from the preacher of half a century ago. He



has time to become familiar with the leading events of the week, and prepare them as food and enlightenment for his people. This is believed to be one of the missions of the modern minister. There is even talk of uniting the different churches and different denominations, which shows a more liberal and enlightened spirit. I say these things not in the spirit of criticising, but to show the change in the way of teaching and reading, and religious education.

A little more than half a century ago Massachusetts had a citizen in the person of Daniel Webster. He was a great scholar, eminent lawyer and distinguished statesman. If he had never done any other act nor delivered any other speech than his reply to Hayne he would have been entitled to a first place in the history of his country, and in the hearts of his countrymen. When he died his state proposed the erection of a monument to his memory—a fitting thing for any state to do for such a man. But the Commonwealth of Massachusetts had another great man,—a native of the state—Wendell Phillips. He too was an eminent scholar, eloquent orator and great philanthropist. In his lecture entitled "Idols" he made a severe attack upon the proposed plan of raising a monument to Daniel Webster.

His scathing words sank deep into the hearts of some of the people but great as he was and eloquent as his words were, he could not put down Webster's greatness. And Massachusetts still honors Webster, and every school boy in the land reads his speeches.

A few years ago after reading Phillips' "Idols," I visited Boston's magnificent library building, and there found side by side the names of Webster and Phillips carved in marble. His friends have been more forgiving than Phillips. It proves the saying that the lion and the lamb shall lie down together. Death largely removes the difference of great men.

Phillips' eloquence had shaken the crumbling foundations of slavery as no other force had done except, perhaps, the pen of Harriet Beecher Stowe in *Uncle Tom's Cabin*. Webster's voice has proclaimed the perpetuity of the nation. Wendell Phillips could not forgive Webster's acts and life, but Phillips' friends





have been more generous and charitable than their great teacher. Although Phillips was vindictive his pupils have placed the names of both men where they can be seen and read by all.

Not many years ago, women were considered incapable of doing ordinary business. Husband and wife were considered one, and the husband was that one. Women were not permitted to speak even in church meetings. Now they are engaged in nearly all the vocations that men are employed in and are most capable in their several vocations. They are employed as teachers, professors in colleges, presidents of seminaries, and they fill every calling with credit to themselves and honor to the institutions they serve. And as friends they surpass in fidelity and loyalty the most of their stronger brothers.

This is indeed advancement in the social and educational condition of society. Men recognize the superior ability of women in very many walks of life, and women have proven their excellent and womanly qualities in the business, educational and religious world.

And now I express this wish, that every good man may have the companionship expressed by the poet of,

"A woman, perfect nobly planned,  
To warm, to comfort and command,  
And yet a spirit still, and bright,  
With something of an angel light."

A double quartet "Lock Lomond" was sung, after which Rev. Elmer I. Nye of Georgia, Vt, delivered the following address, entitled "The Value of Family Reunions."

MR. PRESIDENT,

AND MEMBERS OF THE NYE FAMILY ASSOCIATION :

Once again I am a boy with a large future before me, though I have always been of the hopeful ones. There came a time when my grandfather had died, also my grandmother and father and mother, and my only brother. I felt that I was the only Nye left, but I was resolved that my sun should never set, and dark clouds shadow my life. Still I would look forward to a



glorious future, and my ideal has been realized somewhat, for something over a year ago the curtains were drawn aside, as it were, and revealed a host of Nyes, opening up to me a glorious future. So once again I am a boy tonight.

As I stand here tonight, I am reminded of my first effort on the stage before an audience, as a school-boy. My subject was "Jack Frost." I spoke out these words with force: "Who doth make the school-boy's ears to tingle, and puts the glow upon his cheek? Jack Frost."

Since that time I have stood before an audience many a time but I doubt if my life-blood has ever caused my heart to beat with more enthusiasm, pride and joy than today as I stand before you who have flowing in your veins the blood of Benjamin Nye and Katherine Tupper Nye, as I have in mine.

Dear relatives, I am a child of romance. I love romance; my life is filled with romance, and God forbid the day when the romance all goes out of my life, and leaves only the mark of hard experiences. And because of the romance that fills my life, as I look in your faces with love, I can say with all honesty and sincerity, I know of no ladies in all the land more beautiful and lovable than those of the Nye Family Association; no gentlemen that have more marks of nobility and true manhood than those of the Nye Family Association.

As a lover of romance, the third reunion at Marietta, Ohio, and the fourth at Sandwich, Mass., have thus filled my soul with that upon which I feed. To become acquainted with you is but to love you, and it has made more of a man of me, as I feel that I have such noble relatives in backing me in keeping the name of Nye untarnished. The very name "Nye" has more music in it, more inspiration, than before I met you.

Before I only had my old grandfather, Stephen Nye, whom I heard tell of before the war of 1812, of the British battleship coming into Stonington Harbor, and the British Midshipman, who was shot, and was kindly cared for by Stonington people, or of my uncle John Nye, who yielded up his life as he bore the Stars and Stripes at Port Hudson in the Civil War. I have always had only their lives to look back to with my boyish love of romance. But now I have you and your fathers and mothers





and grandfathers and grandmothers to help fill up my book of romance.

And it is a very great inspiration to see such a host of you at these reunions. It makes me a man of broader views as I come in contact with you. If you differ in your views from me, still you are my very own. Love's eyes see no faults in the loved ones.

As one of you asked me last year with what denomination I worshipped, I answered, "Baptist," you said, "We are of the wicked Unitarians." How can the Unitarians be wicked, if any of the Nye Family Association are members of the denomination?

So, dear friends and relatives, I have the witness within myself that family reunions are of great value, for it seems to be that which rounds my life out, and fills me with what I was hungry for--the knowledge and love of my own kindred. Only a few weeks ago, I was visiting a sick lady in a sanitorium in the city of Burlington, Vt. As I was introduced to the doctor, he said, "why I knew a clergyman by the name of Nye in Canada. He was an Episcopalian clergyman and was a fine fellow. How glad I was to tell him of the fine family there is of us, and of our meeting last year, and expecting to meet again this year. Aye, the family reunions of the Nye family give each of us a firmer foothold socially with all the world.

I heard an orator last Decoration Day say, as he stood before the veterans of the Civil War, that he felt almost strange in his position. He, born since the war, and they served in the war. They knew the hard and bitter experiences of the war, and he, only the romance, what he had heard at the camp fires and read, but as he talked of the course of the war, and camp fire stories, and paused for the audience to sing "The Star Spangled Banner," and for one to sing "We shall meet but we shall miss Him," all the romance was roused again in those veterans' lives.

The experiences of Benjamin Nye of old and Katherine Tupper Nye were hard and bitter, many of them, but the romance that united their lives has never died. We fan it into flame again at these reunions and camp fires, and it thrills our lives with its flame.





Aye, these reunions will be the means of keeping the fires of romance burning brightly in our every heart, and cause it to go on into the future lives of the Nye family, as uncle Charles has so feelingly asked us today to do. How grateful I am that Mrs. Belcher and others opened again the streams that became dammed and caused us to be unmindful in regard to our forbears.

You have read, of course, that interesting romance, John Halifax. In it there is a very interesting incident related concerning the stream which turned the wheel of John's hired factory. How the fear that his enemy, the English lord, who lived farther up the stream, might turn all the water to one side and take it off his wheel, led him to experiment with a new steam engine, and introduce it in time to defeat his enemy's purpose. When you permit your mind to dwell on John's noble character, and the despicable traits of the English lord, who lived farther up the stream, you have your sympathy awakened, and can you wonder why mankind agree that a stream must be kept in its ancient channel, and why mankind insists that men living below shall have the benefit of the pure stream and of the whole stream, as it is running above.

Mrs. Belcher and her friends have opened again the channel of romance from the lives of Benjamin Nye and Katherine Tupper, and turned it by these reunions into all our lives; and we, by holding the reunions, carry the singing of the romance into all the lives of the future Nye family. As Longfellow has so beautifully said:

Lives of Great men all remind us  
We can make our lives sublime;  
And, departing, leave behind us  
Footprints on the sands of time.

Footprints, that perhaps another  
Sailing o're life's solemn main,  
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother  
Seeing, shall take heart again.

Aye, who can measure or point out the value of these reunions, the blessing, the hope and love that will be brought



into the future lives of the Nye family by them? So many of us get discouraged with the treadmill and daily grind of life that when the romance of our forbears are told to us again and again, it may be that it will set the sluggish blood to bounding and throbbing as of yore.

In my boyhood life, the world seemed large and beautiful, and offered much, and I reached out both arms to grasp it all, and never shall I let that boyish romance die out of my life. I shall always reach for what will feed it, and these reunions are just bread and meat to me. They are more than a picnic or a day's outing, for they just put a golden glow in all the romance of my life.

By all means, let us keep the channel open that the full stream of romance may flow into the lives of all the Nye family.

One of the stories that charmed my boyhood life was the story of Robert Bruce; how when he was dying, he called his favorite officer, and asked him to take his heart when he was dead, and take it to the Holy Land for burial.

Douglas had the heart of his beloved Chieftain put into a casket and set out on his mission, but met the Moors in Spain, who gave battle and when the battle seemed to be against Douglas, he took the casket from its hiding place, and threw it among the enemy, and cried out, "Forward, heart of Bruce, as was thy wont. Douglas will follow thee or die," and so followed to his death.

But, relatives of the Nye family, we, by these reunions, will throw forward into the midst of hard experiences, and the daily grind of life, the true story of the romance of the lives of our forbears, into the lives of the future Nye family, saying, "Forward, romance of Benjamin and Katherine, with all thy former glow, we will live and love by thy glow, and cast its warmth and fervor into others." All the light of Sacred Story gathers round Him who opens again to mortals the Romance of the Garden of Eden with all its beauty, and inspires with hope the prospect of Paradise regained, the reunion of the family who live in the romance of the love of God.

Every service of the Christian brotherhood is but a reunion for the advancement in the romance of an ideal life, which looks





forward to the final reunion of all the lovers of the household of God.

The value to be derived from family reunions is of more than money value. More even than the attaining of knowledge of the history of our forebears. It is that we may attain and retain that which makes life worth the living—the true romance of life.

I believe, dear friends, as long as we assemble in these family reunions, we shall never reach that time that Solomon speaks of, "The evil days draw nigh when thou shalt have no pleasure in them," but filled with the romance that inspired Benjamin and Katherine of old, we will keep the romance of youth even unto the eternity of bliss when all the family of God are reunited.

But perhaps some of you were never interested in the romance of life, and wish that I would get down to business. Well, these are the days of the gathering in from everywhere of all that is of true value in knowledge, science and discovery, for the end of these is never to be attained in this life; they reach unto the divine. But in reunions of the physicians in our country, they bring to each other that which they have gathered in from everywhere of knowledge, science and discovery.

The old saying, "United we stand, Divided we fall," is felt by all the Professors and tradespeople. All feel that there is much to be gained in life by comparing notes, relating experiences, and planning for the future. The result is that there are reunions without number of professional men and tradespeople, for mutual benefit.

In these family reunions we will naturally bring to each other the best that we gather in our lives, and in doing so, will enrich the lives of the coming generations more than we can now very well know.

The real value of the family reunions cannot be estimated, but by observing them, we shall build better than we know.

Mr A. S. Nye of Dorchester again favored the audience with a song entitled, "Adoration."

Mr. George W. Emmons of Russell, Mass., had the conclud-



ing paper of the evening. Its subject was "A history of the Blandford Nyes—The James Nye branch from R. I." This most interesting paper was prefaced by a few remarks, which are given in part, he said:—

We had searched in vain for any ancestors of James Nye, and came to the conclusion that little Rhode Island was unable to furnish such luxury as ancestors and you can imagine our surprise when after the first reunion of the Nye Family we found there were so many Nyes in the world extending from the North Pole to the Tropics, from California to Maine; that the country was full of Nyes, filling the highest positions, peers of the best in the land. You can imagine how we felt when we have thought we were *it*, to find that we were simply a side show.

About the last of the 80's at the beginning of the 19th century, when I first learned of the remarkable growth of the Nye family, where they had been, how they had succeeded in life, the positions they had filled, I felt that perhaps our great grandfather had made a mistake, that his judgment was at fault in going to the Berkshire Hills instead of going west. Horace Greeley's advice to go west had not been heard then and he was not to blame for that. They well knew that the Wilson's had occupied the fertile fields of Ohio and also supposed Vermont and Massachusetts were yet unclaimed. Mr. James Nye after a time moved west.

The west as I have said was a fertile land and they little knew of its possibilities. The social conditions of life were so much different then from now; every town was almost a world in itself. The women of the household spun the wool and the people did not have a center of population as they have today. No railroads had been contemplated then, and when we think of the long, tiresome journey it must have been to Ohio, riding in their automobiles drawn by oxen six or eight miles a day, without the privilege of running over anyone, and even coming from Rhode Island to Blandford—their grandmothers said it took them one full week—we can realize what the hardships were.



There is little that I can say about that branch of the Nye family that can add anything to the voluminous record of the general Nye family of America. The last three generations have begun to stand for more, have gone to other states and towns and other kinds of business, whether for better or worse I cannot say.

## A HISTORY OF THE BLANDFORD NYES

### THE JAMES NYE BRANCH FROM R. I.

A history of plain farmers cannot be fascinating or even interesting to anyone not a descendant of these same farmers. But it is of great value to any general family history to have every branch represented by a full and accurate genealogy. But this paper is not a genealogy but simply a brief historical sketch.

At the second Nye reunion at Sandwich, a paper was read that was written about the Rhode Island Nyes.

This paper says that the children of John 3d, grandson of Benjamin 1st were John, Isaac, Caleb and George; and that Isaac's eldest son, James 5th, with his wife, Sarah Clark, and eleven children, moved to Blandford which is in the western part of Massachusetts, in the year 1804.

Of James Nye and his descendants, I will give a brief account.

His children's names were George, Jonathan, Hazzard, James, Clark, Dennis, Randal, Sarah, Rebecca, Elsie and Mercy.

From all that can be learned, it is evident that James Nye 5th, like his ancestors, was a man of integrity, industry and good judgment, as appears from his choice of farms in the town and his management of them.

At his death he owned one of the best farms in that region. In all its appointments it easily led the rest in town. But he was only a farmer, his children and his children's children followed in his footsteps and were farmers in the same town, living to a good old age, many of them exceeding the oft quoted "three score years and ten," and a number exceeded eighty years.

But very few of the family had trades,





James Nye's son, George, who married Judith Clark of Rhode Island, like the rest of his father's family, was a farmer, but was also a shoemaker and a Baptist preacher.

It may look as though he was extravagant in his variety of business, but when we remember that he had a family of twelve children to provide for, we shall see that his business was not out of proportion to the size of his family, and also that his business was finely adapted to the condition of the times.

He farmed it summers, made shoes winters, preached nights and Sundays, and incidentally fished and hunted the rest of the time.

I have heard it said, that while he sat working at shoes, with his gun standing near, his eyes were often scanning the surrounding fields, that he might intercept any passing fox, the most of whom came to stay, for he, like his brothers, was a great hunter.

His children, unlike his brothers, most of them moved to other sections of the country. Still their wanderings were not aimless. They were workers and it was their various lines of work that caused them to scatter.

There are none of them alive today. They are lying in many states, only two of them being buried in their native town.

Wherever they lived they brought no discredit to the name of Nye. Not one of the twelve was intemperate and scarcely any used tobacco. While none gained national fame, their local reputation was above reproach.

They were truly a God-fearing and work-loving people. They were taught it when young and never departed from it.

Now that we are taught to reverse the order to God-loving and work-fearing people, conditions may change, and, while resting from their labors, they may have time to climb the ladder of fame.

It is sincerely hoped that they will not try the strenuous life but still remain in the tradition of their father, enjoying only the fruits of their own labor, living a simple life.

To identify James Nye more fully with another and more numerous branch of John Nye's family, let us remember that Isaac's son John was the father of James, and another son,



George, was the father of Ebenezer and Ichabod who first settled in Ohio. They had been in Ohio about fifteen years when their cousin James and family came to Blandford.

From 1785 to 1810, a period of twenty five years, witnessed a very remarkable exodus of New England people to the then called West, which was in most cases to Ohio.

While we deplore the choice our great-grandfather made in not going with his cousin to Ohio, instead of to the Berkshire hills, yet we can excuse him from any lack of forethought.

He and his family probably discussed the question of the far-away Ohio, teeming with savages; a country almost unknown and apparently very uncertain, with hardships that would not have to be endured by those who stayed in their old home state.

When we think of that family of eleven little children, we have no blame but praise for the choice. It was a case where hearts won, which has been characteristic of his descendants ever since.

The double quartet sang "Dry Yo Eyes Ma Honey," then the first business of the convention was in order.

Mrs. Henry A. Belcher moved that a committee be appointed by the chair to report a list of names for officers for the ensuing year. It was voted.

The chair appointed Mr. George H. Nye, Auburn, N. Y.; Mr. Henry A. Belcher, Randolph, Mass.; Miss Abbie F. Nye, Sandwich, Mass.

It was voted that this committee report at the next business meeting.

Mrs. S. Curtis Smith made a motion that this committee consider the advisability of creating the office of Registrar and present a name for the position. It was carried.

Upon the motion of Mr. William L. Nye of Sandwich, it was voted that the chair appoint a committee on Memorials and Resolutions to report at the next business meeting.





The chair appointed Mr. William L. Nye, Sandwich; Mrs. Henry A. Belcher, Randolph; Mrs. S. Curtis Smith, Newton.

The Secretary was instructed to send a letter of thanks to Mr. Everett I. Nye, of Wellfleet, for a collection of picture post cards, sent by him to be given to those present at the Fourth Reunion.

It was voted to send a telegram to him, expressing regrets that he could not be with us and a wish for his speedy recovery.

A matter of great interest to all the family, far and near, then came up for discussion. It was in regard to the publication of the Nye Genealogical manuscript which Mr. George H. Nye of Auburn, N. Y., presented to the Nye Family Association two years ago. Hon. David J. Nye, a member of the publishing committee, presented the following plan, he said:—

I suppose that it is known by a good many of the members of the Nye family that the genealogy is very complete and has been prepared at the expense of Mr. Geo. H. Nye, our Ex-President. He has taken a great interest in the Nye family and tomorrow will give an address which will be worthy of your attention and presence.

The next thing to do is to get it published in book form. I presume it will be a book from 600 to 650 pages. It will be quite a large book and very valuable in my judgment. I am going to propose something to all of you and you can decide for yourselves.

Some time ago I wrote the executive committee and suggested a plan to them which was, that ten individuals must be responsible in the first instance for the publication of the book. I understand from Mr. Geo. H. Nye and others that \$1500.00 will cover the expense. Now I prepared a paper to sign this condition, that ten individuals help to get this book. I have six names and want four more. The paper reads as follows:— We the undersigned hereby agree one with the others that we will be responsible to the Nye Family of America, for the publication prepared, in the hands of Geo. H. Nye of



Auburn, N. Y., and we further agree one with the others that we will in the first instance pay for the cost of the genealogy. This agreement shall not be binding until signed by the ten persons.

You can give the money for the book to the committee and the book can be forwarded. I wanted to bring this to your attention and I would be glad to have the other four names or ten others who are willing to join this paper and have the book published by the next reunion.

Names of those who have promised to be responsible for the publication of the Nye Genealogy: Hon. David J. Nye, Elyria, O.; William F. Nye, Fairhaven, Mass.; Mr. Henry A. Belcher, Randolph, Mass.; Mr. James L. Wesson, Boston, Mass.; Mr. Allen T. Nye, Brookline, Mass.; Mr. Chas. W. Parker, Boston, Mass.; Rev. Elmer I. Nye, Georgia, Vt.; Mr. Geo. H. Nye, Auburn, N. Y.; Dr. Freemont Nye, Westerly, R. I.; Mrs. Harriet N. Towne, Chillicothe, O.

#### THURSDAY MORNING

The church was filled at an early hour and all engaged in social conversation, until called to order at 9.30 o'clock, by the President. After the organ prelude by Miss Kerr, prayer was offered by Rev. Elmer I. Nye of Georgia, Vt. The chorus gave some inspiring music followed by a solo from Mr. A. S. Nye of Dorchester. Miss Emilie P. Nye of St. Joseph, Mo., consented to sing one of her sweet songs. The audience enjoyed this musical treat after which, the business to come before the convention, was presented.

The report of the Secretary, as follows, was read and accepted:—

MR. PRESIDENT,

AND MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF THE NYE FAMILY:

As the Proceedings of the Reunions are always published, the report of the Secretary will be brief.

We are pleased that so many of our widely scattered family





desire to keep in touch with the work of the Association, and order the books which contain all the valuable papers read at the conventions, as well as accounts of the business done, with all the items of interest to the family.

At a meeting of the Executive Board held in Boston February of 1905, it was voted to accept the cordial invitation of our kindred in Marietta, Ohio, to hold our third reunion there. Accordingly the 16th, 17th and 18th of August last were selected, subject to the approval of Mr. James W. Nye of Marietta, who was appointed chairman of the entertainment committee with power to appoint his own committees on local matters. The success of the reunion was due in a large measure to the chairman and his able corresponding secretary, Miss Mary C. Nye, together with the efficient committees who assisted him. The literary exercises, the musical entertainments and business meetings were held by courtesy of the Trustees of the Unitarian Society, in their beautiful church, which was most attractively decorated. Mrs. H. N. Towne of Chillicothe, O., and Mrs. Emerson H. Brush of Elmhurst, Ill., generously furnished at their own expense, throughout the meetings, choice and delightful music, both vocal and instrumental, which was fully appreciated by all.

Each one of the eight branches of Ichabod Nye, the Revolutionary soldier who settled in Marietta in 1788, though widely scattered throughout the world, showed its loyalty and devotion by contributing in some way to the entertainment.

The leading citizens of Marietta joined with the family in extending hospitality. The local press gave prominent notice of all meetings and social functions relating to the family, as well as printing many of the addresses in full. Mr. John Henton Carter, the author, honored the occasion with an original poem, dedicated to the Nye Family.

While the mornings were devoted to formal meetings and business, the afternoons and evenings were spent in visits to historical houses and places. There were drives and an excursion down the river to Blennerhassett Island, with an address there by John Dgna. A generous collation was served on the steamer. There were receptions, teas, dinner parties and





country club lunches for the guests. The absence of our President was deeply regretted. Mr. James W. Nye, the chairman, welcomed the family and Mr. S. Curtis Smith of Newton, in the absence of the President, was asked to respond.

Mrs. T. D. Dale of Montclair, N. J., read a paper, entitled "Marietta," which was well received. It was followed by an able address by Hon. David J. Nye of Elyria, O., on "The beginnings of Ohio." We of the old Bay State felt we had a grand competitor for national honors.

A business meeting followed. Reports were read and accepted; letters of greetings and regrets from absent members were read. Important committees were chosen and much business transacted.

Mr. William L. Nye, the first President of our Association, then read a very interesting historical address concerning Sandwich, the home of our first American ancestors.

Miss Minnie Tupper of New York City followed with a sketch of the life of her grandmother, Minerva Tupper Nye, the wife of Ichabod Nye, the pioneer.

Mrs. Henry A. Belcher's important paper, "The Nye Family Association," received the close attention of the audience.

A young miss of 14 years, Miss Margaret Fielding<sup>1892</sup> of Cleveland, O., who visited Sandwich in 1904, read a bright and entertaining paper entitled, 'A child's impressions of Sandwich,' and while the older members may look well to their laurels, we hail with delight the loyalty and interest evinced by our younger members.

On the last morning a paper was read by Mrs. Sarah M. McGirr of Marietta, concerning her grandfather, Ebenezer Nye, a pioneer of Marietta in 1790.

Mr. Robert W. Thomson of Middletown, Conn., presented a valuable history of the Nyes in Tolland, Connecticut.

Mrs. Mary F. Potts of Zanesville, O., read a sketch of the life of her father, Major Horace Nye, who at the age of two years, came with his parents to Marietta. He and his baby sister were the first white children to dwell in the Ohio Company's purchase.

Mr. William F. Nye of Fairhaven, Mass., gave a short inter-



esting address, followed by Miss Carol Nye, daughter of Mr. Geo. H. Nye, Auburn, N. Y. She read an important paper entitled, "A Retrospect on the Nye Coats of Arms," prepared by her father, the President of our Association.

Mrs. Isaac Cook of Chillicothe, O., had the concluding paper of the morning, the subject being, Hon. Arius Nye, another of the early members of the family who became prominent in the affairs of his city and state.

At a business meeting the officers for the coming year were elected.

The Association was invited to hold its next reunion at Los Angeles, St. Paul and Sandwich. It was voted, on the motion of Mr. Harold B. Nye of Cleveland, to accept the invitation of Sandwich.

The interest in the association has deepened from year to year, and membership has increased, yet the number is far too small when we consider the number of names on our mailing list. It is desired to double the membership before another reunion. The names of the members of the Association will be enrolled upon the pages of each year book. We have been called to part with some of our valued members. Some of our family mourn for those dear to them; others have watched and are still watching by the bed sides of their beloved, not knowing how soon they will be called to the Great Beyond. To all in affliction, we offer our sincere and heartfelt sympathy.

These anniversaries take us from the busy environments into which the rush of our modern life has thrust us. They give us an opportunity to realize we have a past, and that by studying the character of our ancestors who lived and wrought in past generations we find a stimulus as well as an example, "to act well our part."

We find that our hearts, like theirs, still urge the warfare between good and evil. Their impulses, their thoughts and opinions have come down to us in a weaker or more intense form. We are fortunate in our inheritance. We find dignity of character, loyalty to country, love of home and family and Christian fervor as prominent characteristics of our Nye Ancestors.





With this in our favor, may we not in united action place our family association, well organized and equipped, in the foremost ranks and inscribe on our standard the motto we find on the old Pillars of Hercules—"There is more beyond."

Respectfully submitted,

CLARA NYE SMITH,  
Secretary.

The Treasurer's report was read and approved.

#### RECEIPTS

On hand Aug. 19, 1905 . . . . .	\$ 70.99	
Received from Membership Fees . . . . .	205.00	
Received from Sale of Badges . . . . .	25.36	
Received from Sale of Reunion Books . . . .	127.18	\$428.53
Expenses during the year ending Aug. 1, 1906		263.76
		<hr/>
On hand Aug. 1, 1906		\$164.77

The report of the committee on the Memorial Fund was then read.

MR. PRESIDENT,

AND MEMBERS OF THE NYE FAMILY ASSOCIATION:

The committee appointed last year at Marietta to carry out the suggestion of erecting a monument to our ancestors, Benjamin Nye and his wife Katherine, submit the following report.

A subscription paper was started at Marietta, Ohio, last August with much enthusiasm by those attending the reunion held there. In January, eight hundred circular letters were sent to members of our family, and as a result, many have generously responded. I have now subscribed toward the Benjamin Nye memorial \$461.10. We hope to swell the fund to one thousand dollars.

The committee thank all who have so willingly subscribed, and would ask for still further contributions, that we may erect here in Sandwich a monument which shall not only



perpetuate the memory of one of the first settlers of this colony, but a monument showing the pride of his descendants in having for their ancestor, one who has helped sow the seed for our country's greatness. It is our wish that every one subscribe something toward this memorial, no matter how small the amount. At the three reunions we have held, we have opened the pages of our family history, and have learned of the lives and actions of our ancestors. Let us then erect a fitting tribute to their memory, showing that we are grateful for their lives and deeds.

HON. DAVID J. NYE,  
MRS. HORACE K. NYE,  
MRS. HENRY ALDEN BELCHER,  
Chairman.

It will greatly facilitate the work if the subscriptions are promptly sent to Mrs. Henry A. Belcher at Randolph, Mass. She has earnestly presented this matter and it should be the pride and pleasure of every descendant of Benjamin Nye to contribute something towards this lasting tribute to our worthy ancestors.

Mr. Geo. H. Nye moved that the report of the committee be accepted and that this committee be given full power when a sufficient sum shall be raised. It was passed.

Dr. Fremont Nye of Westerly, R. I., suggested that none of the family were so poor but some contribution might be expected and that it would be easy to raise \$1000 for this purpose.

Mr. Henry A. Belcher, chairman of the nominating committee, submitted the following names for officers:

Hon. David J. Nye, Elryia, O., President.  
Mr. James L. Wesson, Boston, Mass., Vice-President.  
Mrs. S. Curtis Smith, Newton, Mass., Secretary.  
Mrs. Annie Nye Smith, Littleton Common, Mass., Treasurer.  
Mr. Robert W. Thompson, Middletown, Conn., Registrar.



## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

William L. Nye, <i>Chairman</i> , . . . . .	Sandwich, Mass.
Charles H. Nye . . . . .	Hyannis, Mass.
William F. Nye . . . . .	Fairhaven, Mass.
Mrs. Henry A. Belcher . . . . .	Randolph, Mass.
Everett I. Nye . . . . .	Wellfleet, Mass.
Mrs. Jerome R. Holway . . . . .	Sandwich, Mass.
Mr. George H. Nye . . . . .	Auburn, N. Y.
Rev. Elmer I. Nye . . . . .	Georgia, Vt.
Miss Abbie F. Nye . . . . .	Sandwich, Mass.
James W. Nye . . . . .	Marietta, Ohio.

## HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS.

Mrs. Hirshel Bartlett . . . . .	St. Joseph, Mo.
Mrs. William J. Bampfield . . . . .	Kingston, Ontario.
Mr. Emerson H. Brush . . . . .	Elmhurst, Ill.
Mr. William Jackson . . . . .	Newark, N. J.
Dr. E. Nye Hutchinson . . . . .	Charlotte, N. C.
Mrs. M. A. Penfield . . . . .	Brunswick, Ga.
Mr. I. Frank Stevens . . . . .	Concord, N. H.
Col. Artemus F. Nye . . . . .	Denver, Col.
Mr. Benjamin F. Nye . . . . .	Carrollton, Wash.
Rev. Charles L. Nye . . . . .	Des Moines, Iowa.
Mr. Carroll A. Nye . . . . .	Moorhead, Minn.
Miss Ellen R. Nye . . . . .	Champlain, N. Y.
Dr. Fremont Nye . . . . .	Westerly, R. I.
Mr. F. H. A. Nye . . . . .	West Salem, Wis.
Col. Reuben L. Nye . . . . .	Los Angeles, Calif.
Mr. J. E. Nye . . . . .	Auburn, Me.
Mr. Robert E. Nye . . . . .	Orwell, Ohio.
Mr. Ray Nye . . . . .	Freemont, Neb.
Mr. M. M. Nye . . . . .	Crawfordville, Ind.

It was voted that the Secretary cast one ballot for the officers nominated, which she did, and they were declared elected.

The President-elect thanked the Association for the honor conferred upon him.





Mr. Belcher moved that the by-laws be changed, adding to the list of officers that of Registrar. It was carried. Mr. Belcher presented the name of Mr. Robert W. Thompson of Middletown, Conn., for the office and moved that the Secretary cast a vote. It was carried, and Mr. Thompson was declared elected.

Mrs. J. R. Holway moved that a message of sympathy be sent to Mrs. John Roberts, who started from her home in Indianapolis, Ind., to attend this Convention, and on the way her daughter met with serious injuries. It was voted that the Secretary send a telegram of sympathy to her at Greenwich, Conn.

It was the unanimous vote that a telegram of sympathy be sent to Mr. Harold B. Nye of Cleveland, O., who is very ill. Mr. Nye is a most loyal member of our Association and he and his family are greatly missed at this Convention by their many friends.

Upon the motion of Mr. Belcher, it was voted to extend the thanks of the Association to Mr. John G. Chipman of Sandwich for his generous and efficient service in connection with the music and also to those who have assisted him.

The report from the Chairman on Memorials and Resolutions is here given.

The Nye Family of America at this, their Fourth Reunion, would feelingly remember those of the family, who in the past year, have been called upon to mourn the loss of those who were near and dear to them, and tender to them their kindest sympathies.

To Mr. J. E. Nye, Auburn, Me.: Who has been called to part with one who had been a loving companion in his daily walks.

To Mr. Chas. H. Nye, Hyannis, Mass.: Who, in his declining years, has been left to walk the lonely path by the loss of his wife he so loved and cherished.

To Mrs. James H. Nickerson, Newton, Mass.: Who mourns



the loss of a husband who for so many years had been her loving and cheerful companion.

To Mrs. Nathaniel H. Nye, Auburndale, Mass.: In the loss of her husband whose sterling worth we well knew and whose interest in the family and the home of his ancestry was always manifest.

To Mrs. J. H. Abbott, East Whitman, Mass.: In the loss of a kind and loving father.

May that peace that passeth all understanding give to each that comfort the loving Father of all would have them possess. May each have faith and confidence to say, "Thy will be done."

When life's labors are over, may there be one grand reunion where partings are unknown.

WM. L. NYE, Chairman,  
MRS. HENRY A. BELCHER,  
MRS. S. CURTIS SMITH,  
Committee on Memorials.

The Secretary was requested to send a copy to each bereaved family as well as to spread it upon the records of the Association.

Mr. William L. Nye of Sandwich moved that the Proceedings of the Fourth Reunion be published and that the publication be left in the care of the Secretary and of Mr. S. Curtis Smith. Voted.

On motion of Mr. S. Curtis Smith a vote of thanks was extended to Mr. Wesson for his gift of "Plymouth Guide Book" to members of the Association.

The Secretary read letters from Dr. Edgar S. Nye of the Philippine Islands; from A. A. Nye of North Sewickley, Pa., Secretary of the Andrew Nye family; telegrams from Mr. and Mrs. William L. Nye of Lee, Mass., regretting their inability to be present; from Mr. James W. Nye of Marietta, Ohio, our genial and much beloved "Uncle Jim."

The following members sent letters of regret: Mrs. A.





Warren, No. Hyde Park, N. H.; Miss Mary C. Nye, Marietta, Ohio; Mrs. F. N. Potts, Zanesville, Ohio; Mrs. H. W. Nye, Fort Worth, Texas; Mrs. Hannah B. Hartford, Watertown, Mass.; Miss Mary P. Nye, Columbus, Ohio; Mrs. L. Simpson Poffenbarger, Pt. Pleasant, W. Va.; Mrs. Rowena Nye Cook, Chillicothe, Ohio; Dr. W. W. Nye, Hiawatha, Kansas; Hon. Geo. B. Nye, Waverly, Ohio; Fred A. Nye, Esq., Kearny, Kansas; Eben P. Bowene, Marietta, Ohio; Miss Bertha Nye Collins, Athol, Mass.; Ira P. Nye, Eureka, Kansas, and J. Henry Nye, Kenwood, N. Y.

Mr. William L. Nye of Sandwich moved that the next reunion of the Nye Family be held in 1908. Mr. Nye said he believed Sandwich was the place to hold the reunions. A good deal of discussion followed, and many were desirous of an annual reunion.

Mr. Geo. H. Nye moved that the invitation to meet at Sandwich be accepted and the time to be decided later on. It was voted to hold the reunion in two years at Sandwich, unless the Executive Board should otherwise decide later on.

The season of year for holding the reunion was then discussed. As it seemed difficult to decide what time would be the most favorable for our widely scattered family to gather, it was left to be considered later by our Executive Board, who will be somewhat governed by the letters received from members of the various sections of our country, who will have time to state their preferences.

After the business meeting Mr. Geo. H. Nye read his paper entitled "Revolutionary Records of the Nye Family." It was not read in full but submitted to be printed in the Proceedings. It is of great interest to us all, and has cost the writer a vast amount of research and valuable time to tabulate these records.

A paper by George H. Nye, of Auburn, N. Y., read at the



Fourth Reunion of the Family, at Sandwich, Mass., August 7th, 8th and 9th, 1906.

In consulting the records for reference it should be borne in mind that the spelling of the original documents has been followed, therefore it is necessary to look under every form that can be imagined, adding afterwards all those that cannot.

Items under the forms of Ney, Nie, Nigh, Niy, Ny, Nig and Night, as well as the correct form, have been found to belong to the family. All items under the correct spelling have been included, although in some instances it has been impossible to connect the individual with any known descendant of Benjamin Nye, of Sandwich; but as there is no record of any other of the name having come to America prior to the Revolution, the assumption is that they properly belong in the list, and they are therefore given, to aid others in searching for the Revolutionary history of their ancestors. Many of these items have never appeared in the records of the Colonies, and the historical matter, other than Military, is not to be found in any publication. It is, therefore, presented as a whole of sufficient value to be incorporated in the published proceedings of this reunion, and thus transmitted to posterity and to permit of reference by those now living.

The Colonial records, it should be observed, are far from complete; they consist of fragments of service gathered from reports, pay rolls, etc., which are often separated by long intervals and frequently show but a few days' service. As the object of this paper will best be accomplished by its appearing in print, I will content myself with reading a few extracts. An item that may arouse your curiosity as it has mine, is an allowance to a Connecticut soldier for "sauce money," as well as wages and travel.

The Revolutionary service of the Nye family contained in these records being confined to the male descendants of Benjamin Nye, of Sandwich, we can form some conception of the extent to which his blood has diffused itself wherever "Old Glory" floats. An interesting memento of those days, I have here in a photographic copy of a Revolutionary muster roll of troops stationed at the Elizabeth Islands, under command of Captain



Elisha Nye, with Stephen Nye, First Lieutenant, while among the privates appears the name of Jonathan Nye. Captain Elisha Nye is represented by "a chip of the old block" in the person of his grandson, General George H. Nye, of Boston, who won his spurs in the Nye way, through actual service, and not because of the deeds of his ancestors.

In conclusion, I realize that errors may be expected in a compilation of this sort. If such are found, I trust this paper may be judged not by its imperfections, but by its intent,—namely, a desire to make the study of Nye Revolutionary history an easier matter than I found it, and to record items heretofore unpublished.

1 NYE, BARNABAS. <sup>3</sup> (Ebenezer <sup>2</sup> John <sup>1</sup> Benjamin)

Born in Sandwich, Mass., in 1734; died in Acushnet, Mass., July 24, 1813. Private, Capt. Simeon Fish's Co., Col. Freeman's Reg.; service, 11 days, on an alarm at Dartmouth and Falmouth in Sept., 1778; also same Company and Regt.; Enlisted September 11, 1779, discharged Sept. 12, 1779, service, 2 days, on an alarm at Falmouth; Company ordered out by Brig. Otis; roll dated Sandwich.

2 NYE, BARNABAS. <sup>4</sup> (John <sup>3</sup> Nathan <sup>2</sup> Nathan <sup>1</sup> Benjamin)

Born at Rochester, Mass., Sept. 12, 1766. He married Sally Bennett, and resided in Rochester, where he died April 12, 1816. Private, Capt. John Gibbs' Co., Col. John Jacobs' Regt.; enlisted July 23, 1780; discharged Oct. 27, 1780; service, 3 mos. 6 days at Rhode Island; Company detached from militia to reinforce Continental Army for three months. Roll certified at Wareham. Also, Capt. Stephen Churuchill's Co., Col. Theophilus Cotton's Regt.; enlisted March 9, 1781; discharged March 31, 1781; service, 23 days, at Newport, R. I.; Company raised by order of His Excellency John Hancock to serve for 40 days, unless sooner discharged.

3 NYE, BARTLETT. <sup>4</sup> (Joseph <sup>3</sup> Peleg <sup>2</sup> John <sup>1</sup> Benjamin)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., Aug. 18, 1759. Married Deborah Ellis, of Sandwich, in 1812. He was Representative to the General Court, having removed to Fairfield, Me., where he died in 1822. Private, in a





company commanded by Capt. Job Crocker, of Eastham, Col. Nathan Sparhawk's Regt.; entered service July 2, 1777; discharged Dec. 12, 1777; service, 5 mos. 17 days, at Rhode Island and sundry places in Massachusetts, including 3 days (62 miles) travel home; Company raised to serve for 6 months from July 1, 1777, unless sooner discharged. Also, Corporal, Capt. Simeon Fish's Co., Col. Freeman's Regt.; engaged Sept. 11, 1779; discharged Sept. 14, 1779; service, 4 days, on an alarm at Falmouth; Company ordered out by Brig. Otis. Roll dated Sandwich.

4 NYE, BENJAMIN. <sup>3</sup> (Caleb <sup>2</sup> Nathan <sup>1</sup> Benjamin)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., Apr. 18, 1735. Married Susan Phinney, and lived at Barre, Mass., where he died May 27, 1816. Rutland District (also given Barre). 2nd Lieutenant, Capt. John Oliver's Co.; list of officers appointed to command men enlisted or drafted from (Worcester Co.) brigade, as returned to Maj. Gen. Warren (year not given); Company drafted from Col. Nathan Sparhawk's (7th Worcester Co.) Regt. of Mass. militia; list of officers chosen by the several companies in the said regiment, dated Petersham, March 24, 1776; ordered in Council April 6, 1776, that said officers be commissioned, reported commissioned April 5, 1776; also, Capt. 1st Co.; Col. Nathan Sparhawk's (7th Worcester Co.) Regt. of Mass. militia; list of officers chosen by the 1st and 10th Cos. in said regiment, dated Barre, May 5, 1777; ordered in Council May 14, 1777, that said officers be commissioned; reported commissioned May 14, 1777, also, Capt. Col. Nathan Sparhawk's Regt.; engaged Aug. 21, 1777; discharged Aug. 25, 1777; service, 10 days, including travel (96 miles) home; Company marched Aug. 21, 1777, to reinforce army under Gen. Stark at Bennington; also, Captain of a company which marched under command of Maj. Jonas Wilder to reinforce Northern army for 30 days; engaged Sept. 26, 1777; discharged Oct. 18, 1777; service, 29 days, including travel (128 miles) from camp home; also, Captain of a Company in Col. Nathan Sparhawk's Regt. which served from Sept. 17, 1778, to Dec. 12, 1778, at Dorchester; also, official record of a ballot by the House of Representatives, dated Jan. 30, 1779; said Nye chosen 2nd Major, Col. Jonathan Grout's (7th Worcester Co.) Regt. of Mass.



militia; appointment concurred in by Council Jan. 30, 1779; reported commissioned Jan. 30, 1779.

- 5 NYE, BENJAMIN, Jr. (Benjamin Jonathan Benjamin)<sup>3 2 1</sup>

Born at Sandwich, Mass., June 8, 1739; died at Barnstable, Sept. 18, 1806. Married first, Abigail Percival; second, Mary Hall. Private, Capt. Simeon Fish's Co., Col. Freeman's Regt.; service, 11 days, on an alarm at Dartmouth and Falmouth in Sept., 1778.

- 6 NYE, CALEB. (Caleb Nathan Benjamin)<sup>3 2 1</sup>

Born at Barnstable, Mass., in April, 1742. Married Abigail Goodspeed, and lived in Hardwick, Mass., where he died Oct. 15, 1811. In 1762 he served in the French and Indian war, in the Company of Capt. Ebenezer Cox. Private, Capt. Simeon Hazeltine's Co. of minute-men, which marched on the alarm of April 19, 1775; service, 16 days. Also, Sergeant, Capt. Samuel Billing's Co., Col. Ebenezer Learned's Regt.; muster roll dated Aug. 1, 1775; enlisted May 4, 1775; service, 3 mos. and 4 days; also, Company return dated Oct. 7, 1775. Also, Corporal, Capt. Joel Green's Co., Col. Ezra Wood's Regt.; service, between June 1, 1778, and Jan. 31, 1779, 7 mos. 21 days, at Peekskill and White Plains, including 8 days (160 miles) travel home; regiment raised for 8 months; also, same Co. and Regt.; pay roll for part of May and the month of June, 1778.; said Nye allowed 13 days' service, being 1 day in camp, 3 days preceeding march, and 9 days' (180 miles) travel; also, same Co. and Regt.; pay roll for Oct., 1778; reported joined.

- 7 NYE, DANIEL. (John Ebenezer Caleb Benjamin)<sup>4 3 2 1</sup>

Born at Tolland, Conn., Jan. 8, 1758. Married Nov. 18, 1785, Lydia Howe and resided in Orange County, Vt., where he died Feb. 16, 1844. Private, in Capt. Parker's Co. of Col. Sage's Regt.; and was wounded in the eye at the Battle to White Plains.

- 8 NYE, DAVID. (Shubal Meletiah Ebenezer Benjamin)<sup>4 3 2 1</sup>

Born at Falmouth, Mass., Oct. 15., 1749. Married first, Deborah Nye; second, Keziah Eldred. He died at Falmouth, July 14, 1819. Sergeant, Capt. Samuel Fish's Co., Col. Freeman's Regt., service, 8 days, on an alarm at Darmouth and Falmouth in Sept., 1779.





He served as Captain in the first Barnstable County Regt. of Militia from 1790 to 1796, as Lieut. Col. from 1796 to 1806, and as Colonel from that date till 1815, when he resigned. He was Justice of the Peace for fourteen years, and Representative for a like term. Colonel Nye had painted for him, by J. W. Coles, the Boston heraldic painter, the much discussed coat of arms, the history of which was given in the address read at the Third Nye Reunion, at Marietta, O., in 1905.

9 NYE, DAVID. (<sup>3</sup>David <sup>2</sup>Jothan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Rochester, Mass., April 2, 1738. Married Desire Thacher, of Wareham. Private, Capt. Noah Fearing's Co. of Militia, which marched on the alarm of April 19, 1775, to Marshfield; service, 4 days; said Nye and one other reported as "Waters with Horses." Also, Capt. 14th Co., 4th Plymouth Co. Regt. of Mass. Militia; list of officers chosen in said regiment, as returned by Ebenezer Sproutt and Ebenezer White, field officers; ordered in Council May 9 1776, that said officers be commissioned; reported commissioned May 9, 1776; also, Capt. 14th Co., 4th Plymouth Co. Regt.; service, 3 days; Company marched on the alarm of Dec. 7, 1776, for defence of Elizabeth Islands; also, same Regt. service 11 days; Company marched to Rhode Island Dec. 10, 1776, on an alarm also, Captain, 2nd Wareham Co., Col. Sprout's Regt. service, 7 days; Company marched to Dartmouth (also given Falmouth) on an alarm Sept. 5, 1777; also, same Regt.; service, 7 days; Company marched to Falmouth on an alarm Sept. 12, 1778; also, same Regt.; service 4 days; Company marched to Falmouth on an alarm Sept. 10, 1779; also Captain 4th Plymouth Co. Regt. commanded by Lieut. Col. White; entered service July 30, 1780; discharged Aug. 8 1778; service, 9 days at Rhode Island on an alarm. During the war he served on the Committee of Correspondence. He was Selectman, and also Representative for six years.

10 NYE, DAVID. (<sup>4</sup>Meletiah <sup>3</sup>Ebenezer <sup>2</sup>Caleb <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Glastonbury, Conn., Sept. 29, 1760. Married Honor Tryon. Removed to Berlin, Vt., where he occupied many positions in town affairs; he died there, Sept. 9., 1832. He served as fifer at the Battle



of Lexington, as musician for six months, in Capt. Samuel Wells' Co. of the Second Battalion of the Connecticut line, and at other times in the same capacity in other companies. He was Sergeant in Capt. Henry Amidon's Co., and also in the Company of Capt. Benoni Smith.

11 NYE, DAVID. (Genealogy untraced.)

Petition dated Boston, April 16, 1782, signed by Peleg Wadsworth, in behalf of himself and others of Boston, asking that Nye be commissioned as commander of the sloop "Sea Flower" (privateer); advised in Council April 16, 1782, that a commission be issued.

12 NYE, EBENEZER. (<sup>3</sup>Ichabod <sup>2</sup>Jonathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Rochester, Mass., July 21, 1761. Married, June 13, 1790, Lucy Woods, of New Braintree, and lived in North Brookfield, where he died Dec. 28, 1838. Descriptive list of men raised to reinforce the Continental Army for the term of six months, agreeable to resolve of June 5, 1780, returned as received of Justin Ely, Commissioner, by Brig. Gen. John Glover, at Springfield, July 15, 1780; age 18 years; stature, 5 ft. 6 in.; complexion, light; engaged for town of Barre; marched to camp July 15, 1780, under command of Capt. James Cooper; also, list of men raised for the six months service and returned by Brig. Gen. Paterson as having passed muster in a return dated Camp Totoway, Oct. 25, 1780; also, Private; pay roll for six months men raised by the town of Barre for service in the Continental Army during 1780; engaged July 12, 1780; discharged Dec. 11, 1780; service, 5 mos. 9 days, including 10 days (200 miles) travel home.

13 NYE, EBENEZER. (<sup>3</sup>Caleb <sup>2</sup>Nathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Barnstable, Mass., Feb. 2, 1739. Married Pamela Sturges, and lived in Oakham, Mass., where he died in 1793. Corporal, Capt. John Black's Co., Col. Jonathan Brewer's Regt.; muster roll dated Aug. 1, 1775; enlisted April 20, 1775; service, 3 mos. 13 days; also, (late) Capt. Black's Co., Col. Brewer's Regt.; Company return (probably Oct., 1775); also petition signed by said Nye and others belonging to Capt. John Black's Co., Col. Brewer's Regt., asking for allowance for articles lost in battle at Bunker Hill,



June 17, 1775; said Nye claimed compensation for loss of a bayonet and belt; certificate dated Hutchinson, Apr. 28, 1776, signed by Capt. Black, certifies to the correctness of statements in above petition; amounts allowed by resolve of May 10, 1776; also, Sergeant, Capt. Benjamin Nye's Co., Col. Nathan Sparhawk's Regt.; engaged Aug. 21, 1777; discharged Aug. 25, 1777; service, 10 days, including travel (96 miles) home; Company marched Aug. 21, 1777, to reinforce army under Gen. Stark at Bennington; also, Capt. Benjamin Nye's Co.; enlisted Sept. 26, 1777; discharged Oct. 18, 1777; service, 29 day, including travel (128 miles) from camp home; Company marched under command of Maj. Jonas Wilder to reinforce Northern army for 30 days.

- 14 NYE, EBENEZER. (<sup>4</sup>Samuel <sup>3</sup>Ichabod <sup>2</sup>Jonathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Rochester, Mass., March 21, 1742 or 1743. Married, July 7, 1768, Thankful Dean, of New Braintree, and resided at Ware. Sergeant, Capt. Joseph Foster's Co., Col. Ruggles Woodbridge's Regt., which marched in response to the alarm of April 20, 1775; said Nye marched April 20, 1775; left place of rendezvous April 30, 1775. Roll sworn to at Ware.

- 15 NYE, EBENEZER. (<sup>4</sup>George <sup>8</sup>John <sup>2</sup>Caleb <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Tolland, Conn., Oct. 21, 1750. Married Desire Sawyer. In 1790 he removed to Marietta, O., and in 1795 from there to Rainbow, O., where he died Feb. 29, 1823. Private in various companies for service around Fort Ticonderoga, one of these being Capt. Edward Bulkeley's of the Third Connecticut Regt. commanded by Col. S. P. Webb.

- 16 NYE, EBENEZER. (<sup>4</sup>Benjamin <sup>8</sup>Benjamin <sup>2</sup>John <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Falmouth, Mass., Oct. 19, 1743. Married first, Fear Hatch; second, Hannah Cotton, of Plymouth, Mass. Died at Falmouth, Mass., Nov. 9, 1799. Petition dated Boston, May 13, 1779, signed by Joseph Dimuck, of Falmouth, asking that said Nye be commissioned as commander of the small boat known as the Shaving Mill (privateer), intended to cruise in Vineyard Sound between Falmouth and Nantucket; ordered in Council May 13, 1779, that a commission be issued. He served on several town committees during the war.





- 17 NYE, EBENEZER. (<sup>4</sup>Silas <sup>3</sup>Ebenezer <sup>2</sup>John <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., Jan. 28, 1752. His wife's name was Keziah. He died in 1835. Private, Capt. Simeon Fish's Co., Col. Freeman's Regt.; service, 11 days, on an alarm at Dartmouth and Falmouth in Sept., 1778; also, Capt. Joseph Palmer's Co., Col. Freeman's Regt.; service, 8 days, on an alarm at Dartmouth and Falmouth, in Sept., 1778; also, same Co. and Regt.; service, 9 days; Company marched on alarms at Falmouth Feb. 4, April 2, and May 16, 1779; roll sworn to in Barnstable Co.; also, pay roll of a company raised in Falmouth, Barnstable Co., by Joseph Dimuck, Esq., to guard the shore; enlisted June 10 (1783); discharged Nov. 15 (1783); service, 5 mos. 5 days; warrant drawn in favor of selectmen of Falmouth.

- 18 NYE, EBENEZER. (Genealogy untraced.)

Private, Capt. Newell's Co.; enlisted Nov. 3., 1778; discharged Nov. 18, 1778; service, 15 days; Company detached from Gen. Warner's brigade to join Col. Gerrish's Regt. of Guards and escort troops of Saratoga Convention from Rutland to Enfield, Conn.

- 19 NYE, EBENEZER. (Genealogy untraced.)

Private, Capt. Botham Hooghton's Co., Col. Samuel Denny's (2nd) Regt., Gen. Fellows' Brigade; enlisted Oct. 24, 1779; service to Dec. 1, 1779, 1 mo. 8 days, at Clavrack. Roll dated Petersham.

- 20 NYE, ELIAS. (<sup>3</sup>Isaac <sup>2</sup>Jonathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Plympton, Mass., April 5, 1752. Married first, Ruth Shurtliff; second, Elizabeth Bartlett, of Plymouth. Moved to Burlington, Vt., where he died Dec. 17, 1838. Private, Capt. Isaac Gray's Co., Col. Jonathan Brewer's Regt.; muster roll dated Aug. 1, 1775; enlisted May 1, 1775; service, 3 mos. 8 days; also, order for bounty coat or its equivalent in money dated Prospect Hill, Nov. 4, 1775. Also, Private, Capt. Isaac Gray's Co., Col. Jonathan Brewer's (7th) Regt.; Company return dated Prospect Hill, Oct. 6, 1775.

- 21 NYE, ELIAS. (Genealogy untraced.)

Bombardier, Capt. Jonathan W. Edes' (4th) Co.,



Col. Thomas Crafts' (Artillery) Regt.; enlisted May 26, 1776; service to Nov. 1, 1776, 5 mos. 10 days.

- 22 NYE, ELIHU. <sup>4</sup> (Seth <sup>3</sup> Benjamin <sup>2</sup> John <sup>1</sup> Benjamin)

Born at Falmouth, Mass., in 1745, and died there Dec. 10, 1813. Married first, Sarah Crowell; and presumably a second time, as his will names his wife as Mary. Sergeant, Capt. Samuel Fish's Co., Col. Freeman's Regt.; service 8 days, on an alarm at Dartmouth and Falmouth in Sept., 1779.

- 23 NYE, ELISHA. <sup>4</sup> (Joshua <sup>3</sup> Jonathan <sup>2</sup> Jonathan <sup>1</sup> Benjamin)

Born in 1761. Married Druzilla Thomas, in 1790, and removed from Hardwick, Mass., to Woodstock, Vt., where he died Nov. 5, 1848. Private, Capt. Jonathan Sibley's Co., Col. Luke Drury's Regt.; entered service Aug. 9, 1781; marched Aug. 13, 1781; arrived at camp Aug. 22, 1781; discharged Nov. 21, 1781; service, 3 mos. 23 days, including 10 days (200 miles) travel home; residence, Barre; engaged for town of Barre; regiment raised for three months.

- 24 NYE, ELISHA <sup>4</sup> (Stephen <sup>3</sup> Nathan <sup>2</sup> John <sup>1</sup> Benjamin)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., April 22, 1745. Married first, Lucy, daughter of Eliakim Tobey, of Sandwich; second, Mehitable, daughter of William Robinson, of Falmouth. In 1781 he removed to Hallowell, Me., where he died May 12, 1833. General George H. Nye, who served in the Civil War, was a grandson of his. Lieutenant, Capt. John Grannis' Co.; engaged July 1, 1775; service to Dec. 31, 1775, 6 mos. 16 days; Company stationed at Elizabeth Islands; also, Capt. 4th Co.; list of sea-coast officers stationed at Elizabeth Islands and Martha's Vineyard; commissioned Jan. 1, 1776; also Captain of a company stationed at Elizabeth Islands; entered service Jan. 4, 1776; service to Feb. 2, 1776, 29 days; roll sworn to in Barnstable Co.; also, Captain, list of officers of Col. Cary's Regt. raised to reinforce the army until April 1, 1776; also, Captain of a company stationed at Elizabeth Islands for defense of sea-coast; entered service April 5, 1776; service to Nov. 21, 1776, 7 mos. 17 days; also, official record of a ballot by the House of Representatives, dated Jan. 10, 1777; said Nye chosen Captain of a company stationed at Naushon and Elizabeth Islands; appointment





concurred in by Council Jan. 10, 1777; reported commissioned Dec. 16, 1776; also, Captain of a company stationed at Elizabeth Islands; service from Jan. 19, 1777 to April 20, 1777, 101 days; also, list of men belonging to a company stationed at Naushon who signed a petition for increase of wages or their discharge if such request was not complied with, dated Naushon, Aug. 10, 1777.

- 25 NYE, ELISHA. (<sup>4</sup>Joseph <sup>3</sup>Peleg <sup>2</sup>John <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., Nov. 2, 1757. Married, May 30, 1779, Sarah Morey, of Plymouth. Removed to Fairfield, Me., where he served as Representative in 1816. He died in 1845. Private, Capt. Simeon Fish's Co., Col. Freeman's Regt.; service, 11 days, on an alarm at Dartmouth and Falmouth in Sept., 1778; also, same Co. and Regt.; enlisted Sept. 11, 1779; discharged Sept. 12, 1779; service, 2 days, on an alarm at Falmouth; Company ordered out by Brig. Otis; roll dated Sandwich.

- 26 NYE, ELISHA. (Genealogy untraced).

Private, Capt. Joseph Palmer's Co., Col. Freeman's Regt.; service, 8 days on an alarm at Dartmouth and Falmouth in Sept., 1778; roll sworn to in Barnstable Co.; also, same Co. and Regt.; service, 9 days; Company marched on alarms at Falmouth Feb. 4, April 2, and May 16, 1779; roll sworn to in Barnstable Co.

- 27 NYE, ELNATHAN (<sup>4</sup>Solomon <sup>3</sup>Meletiah <sup>2</sup>Ebenezer <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Falmouth, Mass., Dec. 7, 1755. Married, Dec. 20, 1777, Anna Dimmick. He died in Falmouth, in Oct., 1836. Private, Capt. John Grannis' Co.; enlisted July 4, 1775; service to Dec. 31, 1775, 6 mos. 13 days; Company stationed at Elizabeth Islands; also, Corporal, Samuel Fish's Co., Col. Freeman's Regt.; service, 8 days, on an alarm at Dartmouth and Falmouth in Sept., 1779.

- 28 NYE, EZEKIEL. (<sup>4</sup>John <sup>3</sup>Nathan <sup>2</sup>Nathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Rochester, Mass., Dec. 15, 1763. Descriptive list of men raised in Plymouth Co. in 1779 to serve in the Continental Army; age, 16 years; stature, 5 ft. 4 in.; complexion, light; engaged for town of Rochester; delivered to Ensign T. Clark; also, Cap. Woodbridge'



Co., Col. Smith's (13th) Regt.; entered service July 14, 1779; discharged April 14, 1780; term, 9 months (See Ezekiel Night); also, descriptive list of men raised to reinforce Continental Army for the term of six months, agreeable to resolve of June 5, 1780, returned as received of Justin Ely, Commissioner, by Brig. Gen. John Glover, at Springfield, July 10, 1780; age, 17 years; stature, 5 ft. 5 in.; complexion, dark; engaged for town of Rochester; arrived at Springfield July 9, 1780; marched to camp July 10, 1780, under command of Capt. Daniel Shays; also list of men raised for the six months service and returned by Brig. Gen. Paterson as having passed muster in a return dated Camp Totoway, Oct. 25, 1780; also pay roll for six months men raised by the town of Rochester for service in the Continental Army during 1780; marched July 6, 1780; discharged Dec. 12, 1780; service, 5 mos. 18 days, including travel (240 miles) from camp home; also, Private, Capt. Ignatius Loring, Jr.'s Co., Lieut. Col. Putnam's Regt.; enlisted Sept. 4, 1781; discharged Dec. 8, 1781; service, 3 mos. 17 days, including 12 days (240 miles) travel home; Company raised in Plymouth Co.; Regiment raised to reinforce army under Gen. Washington for three months. Also, under name of

## 29 NIGHT, EZEKIEL.

Private, Capt. Woodbridge's Co., Col. Smith's (13th) Regt.; entered service July 14, 1779; discharged April 14, 1780; term, 9 months. Also, service preceding above as follows: Matross, Capt. Timothy Ingraham's Co.; service from March 1, 1778, to May 1, 1778, 61 days; Company stationed at the Fort of Dartmouth; also, pay roll for wages of men enlisted at Dartmouth in Capt. Perez Cushings Co., made up to Sept. 22, 1778, excluding the month of August, and endorsed "Col' Crafts' Regiment;" enlisted May 1, 1778; service, 3 mos. 21 days.

## 30 NYE, FRANCIS. <sup>4</sup>(Seth <sup>3</sup>Benjamin <sup>2</sup>John Benjamin<sup>1</sup>)

Born at Falmouth, Mass., May 4, 1754. After the war removed to Lee, Mass., where he married Meriam Dodge, after which definite knowledge is lost. Private, Capt. Joseph Palmer's Co. of Militia, which marched on the alarm of April 19, 1775; service, 3 days; also, Capt. John Grannis' Co; enlisted June 27, 1775; serv-



ice to Dec. 31, 1775, 6 mos. 20 days; Company stationed at Elizabeth Islands.

- 31 NYE, GEORGE. (<sup>3</sup>Ichabod <sup>2</sup>Jonathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)  
 Born at Middleborough, Mass., about 1717; died in New Braintree, Feb. 28, 1805. Married first, Sarah Blackwell; second, Rebecca Marshall; third, Mrs. James Fenton; fourth, Mrs. Sarah Gilbert. And also fought as per record annexed. Private, Capt. Thomas Whipple's Co., Col. James Converse's (Worcester Co.) Regt.; service, 3 days; Company marched toward Providence on an alarm in July, 1777. Roll dated New Braintree.
- 32 NYE, GEO. BONUM. (<sup>4</sup>Ichabod <sup>8</sup>Ichabod <sup>2</sup>Jonathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)  
 Born at Rochester, Mass., Nov. 15, 1750. Married, March 12, 1772, Sarah Handy, and resided in Rochester, where he died Dec. 29, 1833. Sergeant, Capt. Barnabas Doty's Co., Col. Ebenezer Sprout's Regt.; entered service Sept. 13, 1778; discharged Sept. 17, 1778; service, 5 days, on an alarm at Falmouth, Barnstable Co.; also, Capt. Samuel Briggs' Co., 4th Plymouth Co. Regt. commanded by Lieut. Col. White; entered service July 30, 1780; discharged Aug. 8, 1780; service, 9 days, at Rhode Island on an alarm; roll dated Rochester.
- 33 NYE, GIDEON. (<sup>8</sup>Thomas, <sup>2</sup>Jonathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)  
 (Descendants not traced.)  
 Marine, frigate "Boston" commanded by Capt. Samuel Tucker; engaged March 31, 1779. Roll made up for advance pay for 1 month. Also
- 34 NYE, GIDEON.  
 Private, Capt. George Claghorn's Co., Col. Abigail (Abiel) Mitchell's Regt.; enlisted July 31, 1780; discharged Oct. 31, 1780; service, 3 mos. 2 days; regiment raised in Bristol Co. to reinforce Continental Army for three months.
- 35 NYE, HOLAND. (<sup>4</sup>Solomon <sup>8</sup>Meletiah <sup>2</sup>Ebenezer <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)  
 Born at Falmouth, Mass., July 6, 1759. Married, Sept. 20, 1779, Jemima Swift. Private, Capt. Samuel Fish's Co., Col. Freeman's Regt.; service, 8 days, on an alarm at Dartmouth and Falmouth in Sept., 1779.





- 36 NYE, ICHABOD. (<sup>4</sup>George <sup>3</sup>John <sup>2</sup>Caleb <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Tolland, Conn., Dec. 21, 1763. Married Minerva, daughter of General Benjamin Tupper, and removed with the latter to Marietta, O., in the party organized by General Rufus Putnam and others, for the first settlement of Ohio. He served there as Colonel in the Militia. His wife died in 1836, and in 1839 he married Rebecca Beebe. He died Nov. 27, 1840. Descriptive list of men raised in Hampshire Co. to serve in the Continental Army for the term of 9 months agreeable to resolve of June 9, 1779, as returned by Noah Goodman, Superintendent; Capt. Cook's Co. Col. Porter's Regt.; age 16 years; stature 5 ft. 11 in.; complexion, black; hair, black; engaged for town of Hadley; also, list of men returned as received of Noah Goodman, Superintendent for Hampshire Co., by Justin Ely, Commissioner, dated Springfield; also, list of men returned as received of Justin Ely, Commissioner, dated Springfield; also list of men returned as received of Justin Ely, Commissioner, by Capt. James Cooper, at Springfield, July 19, 1779; also, Col. Groaton's (3rd) Regt.; entered service July 14, 1779; discharged April 14, 1780; term, 9 months; also, Private, Capt. Oliver Coneys' Co., Col. Sears' Regt.; marched Aug. 12, 1781; discharged Nov. 15, 1781; service, 3 mos. 10 days, including travel (146 miles) home; regiment raised to reinforce Continental Army for three months; roll sworn to at Ware.

- 37 NYE, ICHABOD. (<sup>4</sup>Samuel <sup>3</sup>Ichabod <sup>2</sup>Jonathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at New Braintree, Mass., Mch. 28, 1753. Private, Capt. Edward Hammond's Co., of Minutemen, Col. Theophilus Cotton's Regt.; which marched in response to the alarm of April 19, 1775; service from April 20 to April 26, 1775, 7 days; also, Capt. Edward Hammond's Co., Col. Theophilus Cotton's Regt.; muster roll dated Aug. 1, 1775; enlisted May 1, 1775; service, 3 mos. 8 days; also, Company return dated Oct. 7, 1775; also, order for bounty coat or its equivalent in money dated Roxbury, Nov. 11, 1775.

- 38 NYE, IRAM. (<sup>4</sup>Benjamin <sup>3</sup>Benjamin <sup>2</sup>John <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Falmouth, Mass., Jan. 28, 1751. Married, Oct. 29, 1772, Eleanor Ellis, of Sandwich; after the



war removed to Montpelier, Vt., where he died June 19, 1802. Corporal, Capt. Ward Swift's Co., Col. Freeman's Regt.; service, 10 days, on an alarm at Dartmouth and Falmouth Sept. 6, 1778.

- 39 NYE, ISAAC. <sup>3</sup> (Isaac <sup>2</sup> Jonathan <sup>1</sup> Benjamin)

Born at Plympton, Mass., April 1, 1733. Married Harriet Walker, of Hardwick, Mass. Return of men raised to serve in the Continental Army from Capt. Edmund Hodges' 6th (2nd Hardwick) Co., Col. James Converse's (4th Worcester Co.) Regt., Brig. Warner's Brigade; residence, Hardwick; engaged for town of Hardwick; joined Capt. Warren's Co., Col. Alden's Regt.; term, during war; also, list of men mustered by Thomas Newhall, Muster Master for Worcester Co.; Capt. Benjamin Warren's Co., Col. Ichabod Alden's Regt.; mustered May 20, 1777; term three years; also, Private, 3rd Co., Col. Brook's Regt.; Continental Army pay accounts for service from May 8, 1777, to Nov. 20, 1777; also, Capt. Benjamin Warren's Co., (late) Col. Alden's Regt.; return of men who were in camp on or before Aug. 15, 1777, certified at Cherry Valley; reported died Nov. 20, 1777; also, Capt. Warren's Co., Col. Alden's Regt.; return dated Albany, Jan. 12, 1778; mustered by Capt. Newel, County Muster Master, and by a Continental Muster Master; reported deceased.

- 40 NYE, JABEZ. <sup>4</sup> (Samuel <sup>3</sup> Ichabod <sup>2</sup> Jonathan <sup>1</sup> Benjamin)

Born at New Braintree, Mass., June 13, 1749. Private, Capt. Jonathan Danforth's Co., Col. Asa Whitcomb's Regt.; muster roll dated camp at Ticonderoga, Nov. 17, 1776; enlisted Feb. 1, 1776; reported re-engaged Nov. 14, 1776, as Private, in Capt. Danforth's Co., Col. Wigglesworth's Regt., but to remain in Col. Whitcomb's Regt. until Dec. 31, 1776; also, list of men raised to serve in the Continental Army from Capt. Brakridge's (Brakenridge's) Co., 4th Hampshire Co. Regt., as returned by Lieut. Col. Ruggles Woodbridge, dated South Hadley, May 28, 1777; residence, Ware; engaged for town of Ware; term three years. Also under name of

- 41 NEY, JABEZ, Ware.

Private, Capt. C. Woodbridge's Co.; Col. Calvin





Smith's Regt. (late Col. Wigglesworth's); Continental Army pay accounts for service from Jan. 1, 1777, to May 16, 1778; reported died May 16, 1778; also, Capt. Israel Davis' Co., Col. Edward Wigglesworth's Regt.; return (year not given); residence, Ware; mustered by Capt. Newell; also, (late) Capt. Davis' Co., Col. Wigglesworth's Regt.; muster roll for May, 1778; dated camp at Valley Forge. An Act of the Legislature in 1793 directs a payment to Samuel, father and heir of Jabez Nye, late a soldier in Col Smith's Regt.

42 NYE, JABEZ. (<sup>3</sup>Benjamin <sup>2</sup>Jonathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., April 11, 1749. Married first, Mollie Fuller; Second, Temperance Crocker. Private, Capt. Israel Fearing's Co. of Minute-men, which marched on the alarm of April 19, 1775, to Marshfield; service, 4 days; also, Capt. Nathaniel Hammond's Co.; enlisted July 17, 1775; service, 5 mos. 20 days; Company stationed at Wareham and Rochester for defense of seacoast and discharged Dec. 23, 1775; also, Corporal, Capt. John Gibb's Co., Col. Sprout's Regt., service, 2 days; Company marched to Falmouth on the alarm at Elizabeth Islands of Dec. 8, 1776; also, same Co. and Regt.; service, 13 days; Company marched to Rhode Island on the alarm of Dec. 10, 1776; also, Capt. Nathaniel Hammond's Co., Col. John Dagget's Regt.; entered service Aug. 25, 1778; discharged Sept. 1, 1778; service, 8 days; Company detached from militia for service on expedition to Rhode Island; also, Capt. John Gibb's Co., Col. Ebenezer Sprout's (4th Plymouth Co.) Regt.; entered service Sept. 13, 1778; discharged Sept. 18, 1778; service, 5 days; Company marched to Falmouth on an alarm; also, Capt. John Gibb's Co., 4th. Plymouth Co. Regt. commanded by Lieut. Col. White; entered service July 31, 1780; discharged Aug. 9, 1780; service, 9 days, on an alarm at Rhode Island.

43 NYE, JABEZ. (Genealogy untraced).

Sergeant, Capt. Simeon Fish's Co., Freeman's Regt.; service, 8 days, on an alarm at Dartmouth and Falmouth in Sept., 1778; also, same Co. and Regt.; engaged Sept. 11, 1779; discharged Sept. 16, 1779; service, 6 days, on an alarm at Falmouth; Company ordered out by Brig. Otis; roll dated Sandwich.



- 44 NYE, JAMES. (<sup>4</sup>John <sup>3</sup>John <sup>2</sup>Caleb <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Charleston, R. I., May 13, 1758. In 1805 removed to Blandford, Mass. Married Sarah Clark. He died in Blandford, April 4, 1846. Private, Capt. Amos Green's Co. of Militia under command of Col. Joseph Noyes, Commander of Militia stationed at South Kingston; enlisted Feb. 6, 1777; service to March 6, 1777, 29 days. Receipt given to Capt. Amos Green, dated Charlestown, March 21, 1777, signed by said Nye and others, for wages, etc., for service in 2nd Division of Militia; discharged March 6, 1777.

- 45 NYE, JOHN. (<sup>4</sup>George <sup>3</sup>Ichabod <sup>2</sup>Jonathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Rochester, Mass. Married, May 4, 1775, Elizabeth Wetherel, and resided in New Braintree, where he died March 4, 1792. Private, Capt. John Grainger's Co. of Minute-men, Col. Jonathan Warner's Regt., which marched on the alarm of April 19, 1775; service, 2 weeks, 1 day.

- 46 NYE, JOHN. (<sup>4</sup>John <sup>3</sup>Ebenezer <sup>2</sup>John <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., May 11, 1757. Married, Feb. 21, 1777, Anna Wing. Died at Sandwich, in 1840. Sergeant, Capt. Ward Swift's Co.; return for bounty allowed for service on a secret expedition to Rhode Island in Oct., 1777. Was Adjutant in First Regt. of Militia from 1790 to 1801, Brigade Major to 1803, and appointed Captain in 9th U. S. Infantry in the War of 1812.

- 47 NYE, JOHN. (<sup>4</sup>Stephen <sup>3</sup>Nathan <sup>2</sup>John <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., Dec. 26, 1746. Married, Feb. 9, 1774, Tama Weeks, of Chilmark, Mass. He died in 1825 or Jan., 1826. Private, Capt. Elisha Nye's Co.; service from April 5, 1776, to June 1, 1776, 1 mo. 26 days; Company stationed at Elizabeth Islands for defense of seacoast. Roll sworn to in Barnstable Co.

- 48 NYE, JOHN. (<sup>3</sup>David <sup>2</sup>Jonathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born in Rochester, Mass., in 1745. Married in 1779, Lois West, of Tolland, Conn. He resided in Lee, Mass., and served as Selectman for twenty-one years. Private, Capt. Jesse Bradley's Co., Col. John Brown's



Regt.; entered service June 30, 1777; discharged July 22, 1777; service, 22 days at the Northward; mileage home (100 miles) allowed; also, Capt. William Francis' Co., Col. John Ashley's detachment of militia; entered service July 22, 1777; discharged Aug. 13, 1777; service 23 days, in Northern department.

- 49 NYE, JOHN. (<sup>4</sup>Benjamin <sup>3</sup>Benjamin <sup>2</sup>John <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Falmouth, Mass., Nov. 1, 1741. Married first, Abigail Gifford; second, Mrs. Phoebe Noble. Was Selectman for several years. There is no record of his death. Barnstable Co. Sergeant, Capt. Joseph Palmer's Co. of Militia, which marched on the alarm of April 19, 1775; service, 3 days; also, 1st Lieutenant, Capt. Samuel Fish's 10th (2nd Falmouth) Co., 1st Barnstable Co. Regt. of Mass. Militia; list of officers chosen in said Company March 25, 1776, as returned by 1st Major Joseph Dimuck, dated Falmouth; reported commissioned April 5, 1776; also, Lieutenant, Capt. Samuel Fish's Co., Col. Freeman's Regt.; service, 8 days on an alarm at Dartmouth and Falmouth in Sept., 1779.

- 50 NYE, JOHN. (<sup>3</sup>Nathan <sup>2</sup>Nathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., Sept. 29, 1738. Lived in Rochester, Mass., where he married Sarah Dennis, and died there April 25, 1809. Lieutenant, 2nd; list of officers appointed to command men detached from militia to reinforce the Continental Army for three months, agreeable to resolve of June 22, 1780; commissioned July 27, 1780; reported detached from Col. John Jacobs' (Plymouth Co.) Regt.; also, Lieutenant, Capt. John Gibbs' Co., Col. John Jacobs' Regt.; appointed July 10, 1780; discharged Oct. 27, 1780; service, 3 mos. 18 days, at Rhode Island; Regiment detached from militia to reinforce Continental Army for three months; roll certified at Wareham; also, Lieutenant, Capt. Ignatius Loring, Jr.'s Co., Lieut. Col. Putnam's Regt.; engaged Aug. 6, 1781; discharged Dec. 8, 1781; service, 4 mos. 14 days, including 12 days (240 miles) travel home; Company raised in Plymouth Co.; regiment raised to reinforce army under Gen. Washington for three months.

- 51 NYE, JOHN. (<sup>3</sup>John <sup>2</sup>Caleb <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born in South Kingston, R. I., about 1715. Was





Executor of his mother's will. A descendant states that he served in the Revolutionary War, as did his son mentioned below; but neither can as yet be connected with those of the same name whose military records are mentioned later on.

- 52 NYE, JOHN. (<sup>4</sup>John <sup>3</sup>John <sup>2</sup>Caleb <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)  
Born at Charleston R. I., about 1760. Married Priscilla Sampson. Son of preceding, and same authority for Revolutionary service.

- 53 NYE, JOHN. Also given Jack. (Genealogy untraced).  
Seaman, sloop "Defence," commanded by Capt. James Nivens; engaged July 12, 1781; discharged Sept. 26, 1781; service, 2 mos. 14 days. Roll dated Boston.

- 54 NYE, JOHN. (Genealogy untraced.)

#### NIG, JACK.

Private, Capt. Amos Lincoln's Co. of matrosses; enlisted July 14, 1781; service to Nov. 1, 1782, 12 mos. 18 days; reported as having been absent three months; also reported as among rejected recruits detailed for garrison duty. (See Jack Nigh).

#### NIGH, JACK.

Matross, Capt. Amos Lincoln's Co.; treasury pay roll dated Nov. 15, 1782. (See Jack Nig.)

- 55 NYE, JOHN. (Genealogy untraced.)

#### NIE, JOHN.

2nd Lieutenant, Capt. Benjamin Dellingham's Co.; return of militia officers who joined Jedediah Huntington's Regt., dated Roxbury Camp, Dec. 22, 1775; ordered in Council Feb. 3, 1776, that said officers be commissioned; also, same Co.; list of officers of companies under command of Col. Huntington which reinforced the army; commissioned Feb. 3, 1776.

- 56 NYE, JOHN. (Genealogy untraced.)

Dartmouth. Private, Capt. Thomas Kempton's Co. of Minute-men, which marched April 21, 1775, in response to the alarm of April 19, 1775; service, 5 days; also, Corporal, Capt. Thomas Crandon's Co.; enlisted



July 15, 1775; service, 5 mos. 19 days, in defence of seacoast.

57 NYE, JOHN, Jr. (Genealogy untraced).

Private, Capt. Simeon Fish's Co., Col. Freeman's Regt.; enlisted Sept. 11, 1779; discharged Sept. 15, 1779; service, 5 days, on an alarm at Falmouth; Company ordered out by Brig. Otis. Roll dated Sandwich.

59 NYE, JONATHAN. (David<sup>3</sup> Jonathan<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>)

Born at Rochester, Mass., Mch. 22, 1740. Married first, Elizabeth Irish; second, Mrs. Eunice Pratt. Lived in Middleboro. Date of death unknown. Private, Capt. Joshua Benson's Co., Col. Theophilus Cotton's Regt.; Company return dated Oct. 7, 1775. Also,

NEY, JONATHAN, Middleborough.

Private Capt. Joshua Benson's Co., Col. Theophilus Cotton's Regt.; muster roll dated Aug. 1, 1775; enlisted May 7, 1775; service, 3 mos. 2 days; also, Lieut. William Tomson's (probably Capt. Joshua Benson's) Co. Col. Cotton's Regt.; order for bounty coat or its equivalent in money dated Roxbury, Nov. 14, 1775.

60 NYE, JONATHAN. (Lot<sup>4</sup> Lemuel<sup>3</sup> Nathan<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., July 28, 1766. To show the fighting blood, he enlisted April 27, 1777, when not eleven years of age. He married Achsa Jenkins, and removed from Barnstable, where he had been living, to Boscawen, N. H., where he died Feb. 25, 1844. Return of men raised to serve in the Continental Army from Col. Nathaniel Freeman's (1st Barnstable Co.) Regt.; residence Sandwich; enlisted for the town of Sandwich; joined Capt. Wadsworth's Co., Col. Bradford's Regt.; enlistment, 3 years or during wars; also, Sergeant, Capt. Joseph Wadsworth's Co., Col. Bradford's Regt.; Continental Army pay accounts for service from March 12, 1777, to Dec. 31, 1779; also, same Co. and Regt.; subsistence allowed from date of enlistment, March 28, 1777; credited with 42 days allowance; roll dated Boston; also, same Co. and Regt.; return dated Valley Forge, Jan. 28, 1778; mustered by County and Continental Muster Masters; also, certificate dated Boston, Feb. 2, 1779, signed by Capt. Joseph Wadsworth, certifying that said Nye, a sergeant in his com-





pany, Col. Gamaliel Bradford's Regt., joined the regiment prior to Aug. 15, 1777, and had continued in service to date without absence, except when on furlough; also, Lieut. Colonel's Co., Col. Bradford's Regt.; Continental Army pay accounts for service from Jan. 1, 1780 to March 6, 1780. Also,

### NEY, JONATHAN.

List of men mustered by Joseph Otis, Muster Master for Barnstable Co., dated April 30, 1777; Capt. Wadsworth's Co., Col. Bradford's Regt.; engaged for town of Sandwich; mustered April 24, 1777. term, 3 years.

### 61 NYE, JONATHAN. (<sup>3</sup>Isaac <sup>2</sup>Jonathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Plympton, Mass., June 21, 1743. Married Betsy Ellis; and died in Plympton, May 2, 1834. Plympton. Private, Capt. John Bridgham's Co., which marched on the alarm of April 19, 1775, to Marshfield and then returned by order of Col. Cotton; service, 3 days.

### 62 NYE, JONATHAN. (<sup>4</sup>Ichabod <sup>3</sup>Ichabod <sup>2</sup>Jonathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Rochester, Mass., May 22, 1748. He lived in New Braintree, where he married first, Feb. 16, 1775, Margaret Barr; second, Oct. 22, 1816, Mrs. Mary Ayres. He died in New Braintree, Nov. 28, 1832. Sergeant, Capt. John Grainger's Co. of Minute-men, Col. Jonathan Warner's Regt., which marched on the alarm of April 19, 1775.; service, 2 weeks, 5 days.

### 63 NYE, JONATHAN. (<sup>4</sup>Stephen <sup>3</sup>Nathan <sup>2</sup>John <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., Nov. 27, 1757. After the war removed to Somerset County, Me. Private, Capt. John Grannis' Co.; enlisted June 21, 1775; service to Dec. 31, 1775, 6 mos. 20 days; Company stationed at Elizabeth Islands; also, Capt. Elisha Nye's Co.; entered service Jan. 4, 1776; service, 29 days; Company stationed at Elizabeth Islands.; roll sworn to in Barnstable Co.; also, same Co.; service from June 1, 1776 to Nov. 21, 1776, 5 mos. 21 days; company stationed at Elizabeth Islands for defense of seacoast; roll sworn to in Barnstable Co.

### 64 NYE, JONATHAN. (<sup>3</sup>Jonathan <sup>2</sup>Jonathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., April 30, 1731. Married,



Mch. 18, 1756, Rebecca, daughter of Wm. Freeman, of Sandwich. About 1762 removed to Hardwick, Mass., where he died July 8, 1806. Private, Capt. John Crawford's Co., Col. Job Cushing's Regt.; enlisted Sept. 7, 1777; discharged Nov. 29, 1777; service, 2 mos. 28 days, including 5 days (100 miles) travel home. Roll sworn to in Worcester Co.

- 65 NYE, JONATHAN. (<sup>4</sup>Obed <sup>3</sup>Thomas <sup>2</sup>Jonathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Dartmouth, Mass., in 1762. Married Hannah Mandell. Lived in Fairhaven, Mass., where he died Nov. 18, 1815. Private, Capt. Henry Jenne's Co., Col. John Hathaway's (2nd Bristol Co.) Regt.; entered service Aug. 2, 1780; discharged Aug. 8, 1780; service, 6 days, at Rhode Island on an alarm. Roll certified at Dartmouth.

- 66 NYE, JONATHAN. (<sup>4</sup>George <sup>3</sup>John <sup>2</sup>Caleb <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Tolland, Conn., June 4, 1756. Served in the Revolutionary Army as Private in Capt. Burgess' Co. in Long Island, and was engaged in the Battle of White Plains. He married Diodema Haskell, and removed to Weatherfield, Vt., where he died in 1829.

- 67 NYE, Jonathan. (Genealogy untraced.)

Descriptive list of men raised in Worcester Co. to serve in the Continental Army, agreeable to resolve of Dec 2, 1780, as returned by Seth Washburn, Superintendent, June 12(?), 1781; age, 22 years; stature, 5 ft. 11 in.; complexion, light; occupation, farmer; engaged for town of Hardwick; engaged Nov. 12, 1781; term, three years; also, Private, Col. Benjamin Tupper's (10th) Regt.; service from Nov. 1, 1781, 14 months; also, Capt. Mathew Chambers' Co., Lieut. Col. Calvin Smith's (6th) Regt.; return for wages for the year 1782; said Nye allowed wages for Dec., 1782.

- 68 NYE, Jonathan. (Genealogy untraced.)

Private, Capt. Thomas Samson's Co., Col. Theophilus Cotton's Regt., Gen. Palmer's Brigade; service between Sept. 25, 1777 and Oct. 30, 1777, 32 days, on a secret expedition to Newport, R. I. Roll sworn to in Plymouth.

- 69 NYE, JOSEPH. (<sup>3</sup>Isaac <sup>2</sup>Jonathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Plympton, Mass., Oct. 4, 1735. Married in Hardwick, Harriet Bradish.



NIGH, JOSEPH, Hardwick.

Matross, Capt. John Callender's. Co. commanded by Capt. Lieut. William Perkins, Col. Richard Gridley's (Artillery) Regt.; muster roll dated Aug. 1, 1775; enlisted June 4, 1775; service, 2 mos. 2 days; also, Capt. Lieut. William Perkins' Co., Col. Gridley's Regt. company return (probably Oct. 1775).

70 NYE, JOSEPH. (<sup>3</sup>Caleb <sup>2</sup>Nathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Sandwich, Mass. April 18, 1735. Married first, Thankful Goodspeed; second, Patience Robinson. He died at Hardwick.

Hardwick. Private Capt. Simeon Hazeltine's Co. of Minute-men, which marched on the alarm of April 19, 1775; service, 8 days; reported enlisted into the army; also, Capt. Simeon Hazeltine's (5th) Co. Col. John Fellows' (8th) Regt.; Company return dated Oct. 7, 1775; reported enlisted into the train June 5, 1775; also, Capt. William Perkins' Co., Col. Richard Gridley's (Artillery) Regt.; order for bounty coat or its equivalent in money dated Jan. 1, 1776; also, Private, Capt. Nathan Hamilton's Co., Col. Samuel Brewer's Regt.; service from Aug. 3, 1776, to Sept. 30, 1776, 1 mo. 29 (also given 1 mo. 28) days; also, Capt. Hamilton's Co.; Company receipt for wages for Oct., 1776, dated Ticonderoga Mills; also, Capt. Nathan Hamilton's Co., Col. Samuel Brewer's Regt.; pay abstract for travel allowance, etc., home from Fort Edward, dated Brookfield, Feb. 6, 1777; said Nye credited with allowance for 8 days (160 miles) travel. Also,

NIY, JOSEPH.

Private, Capt. Nathan Hamilton's Co., Col. Samuel Brewer's Regt.; pay abstract for travel allowance, etc., dated Brookfield, Feb. 17, 1777; 140 miles travel allowed said Niy. Also,

NY, JOSEPH, Hardwick. Private, Capt. Simeon Hazeltine's Co., Col. Fellows' Regt.; muster roll dated Aug. 1, 1775; enlisted April 27, 1775; service, 1 mo. 12 days.

71 NYE, JOSEPH. (<sup>3</sup>Joseph <sup>2</sup>Jonathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., Oct. 10, 1742. Married Mary Winslow. He resided in Norwich, and served as Justice of the Peace, Selectman, and was Representa-





tive for five years. Moved to Boston, where he died April 2, 1816. He served while in the legislature, together with Joshua Nye, of Harwich, also a member of the House, on a committee "to make inquisition in reference to the accusation against certain persons of being concerned in the importation of tea and English goods"; and visions of the "Boston Tea Party" and the harbor strewn with tea, are involuntarily brought to one's mind. Private, Capt. Benjamin Berry's (Harwich) Co., Maj. Zenas Winslow's Regt.; service, 6 days, on an alarm at Bedford and Falmouth Sept. 7, 1778; roll sworn to in Barnstable Co.; also, account of blank commissions delivered the committees appointed to raise men to go to Canada (year not given); said Nye reported as belonging to committee for Barnstable Co. Also,

NYE, "JOSES," Jr.

Private, Capt. Simeon Fish's Co., Col., Freeman's Regt.; service, 11 days, on an alarm at Dartmouth and Falmouth in Sept., 1778.

72 NYE, JOSEPH. (<sup>4</sup>Samuel <sup>3</sup>Ichabod <sup>2</sup>Jonathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at New Braintree, Mass., Mch. 28, 1755, and died there April 6, 1819. New Braintree (also given Ware). Private, Capt. Jonathan Danforth's Co., Col. Asa Whitcomb's Regt.; muster roll dated Camp at Ticonderoga, Nov. 27, 1776; enlisted April 15, 1776; reported re-engaged Nov. 14, 1776, as Private in Capt. Danforth's Co., Col. Wigglesworth's Regt., but to remain in Col. Whitcomb's Regt. until Dec. 31, 1776; also, list of men raised to serve in the Continental Army from Capt. William Brakridge's (Brakenridge's) Co., 4th Hampshire Co. Regt., as returned by Lieut. Col. Ruggles Woodbridge, dated South Hadley, May 28, 1777; residence, Ware; engaged for town of Ware; also, return of men raised to serve in the Continental Army from Capt. William Brakridge's (Brakenridge's) Co., 4th Hampshire Co., Regt. as returned Lieut. Col. Ruggles Woodbridge, dated South Hadley, May 28, 1777; residence Ware; engaged for town of Ware.; also, return of men raised to serve in the Continental Army from Capt. Thomas Whipple's and Capt. Converse's (4th Worcester Co.) Regt., Gen. Warner's Brigade; sworn to in Worcester Co., Feb. 21, 1778; resi-



dence, New Braintree; engaged for town of New Braintree; joined Capt. McNail's Co., Col. Wigglesworth's Regt. (also given Capt. Lymon's Co., Francis Stone's Co., of New Braintree, Col. James Lee's Regt.); term, three years or during war.

73] NYE, JOSEPH. (Genealogy untraced.)

NEY, JOSEPH, Ware.

Private, Capt. C. Woodbridge's Co., Col. Calvin Smith's (late Col. Wigglesworth's) Regt.; Continental Army pay accounts for service from Jan. 1, 1777, to Dec. 31, 1779; credited to town of New Braintree; also, Capt. Israel Davis' Co., Col. Edward Wigglesworth's Regt.; return (year not given); residence, Ware; engaged for town of Ware; mustered by Capt. Newell; also, (late) Capt. Davis' Co., Col. Wigglesworth's Regt., muster roll for May, 1778, dated Camp at Valley Forge; also, same Co. and Regt.; muster roll for June, 1778, dated Camp Greenwich; reported sick at Peeskill; also, same Co. and Regt.; pay roll for Oct., 1778, sworn to at Providence; also, Colonel's Co. commanded by Capt. Lieut. Christopher Woodbridge, (late) Col. Wigglesworth's Regt.; muster roll for March and April, 1779; reported on command at Newtown.

74 NYE, JOSEPH. (Genealogy untraced.)

Brookfield. Private, Major's Co., Col. Thomas Nixon's Regt; Continental Army pay accounts for service from Jan. 1, 1780, to Dec. 31, 1780; also, Maj. Peter Harwood's Co., (6th) Mass. Regt.; pay rolls for Jan.-Sept., 1780; also, (late) Maj. Peter Harwood's Co., Col. Nixon's 6th Regt.; pay roll for Nov. and Dec., 1780; also, Capt. J. K. Smith's (3rd) Co. formerly Capt Peter Clayes' Co.), Lieut. Col. Calvin Smith's (6th) Regt; return for wages for the year 1781; said Nye allowed wages for 12 months; reported absent in Aug. and Sept., 1782; also, 2nd Co., 6th Mass. Regt.; (return year not given, probably 1783) of men entitled to \$80 gratuity, agreeable to Act of Congress of May 15, 1778, for service during the war; also, list of men entitled to 320 or 200 acres of land, agreeable to resolve of March 5, 1801; 6th Mass. Regt.; residence, Brookfield. Also.





## NEY, JOSEPH.

Private, Maj. Peter Harwood's Co., Col. Thomas Nixon's (6th) Regt.; pay rolls for Nov. and Dec., 1779; also, Major's Co., Col. Nixon's Regt., return for clothing for the year 1780; receipt for said clothing, dated Peekskill, Dec. 5, 1779.

## 75 NYE, JOSEPH. (Genealogy untraced.)

## NYE, JOSEPH.

Private, Capt. Simeon Fish's Co., Col. Freeman's Regt.; enlisted Sept. 11, 1779; discharged Sept. 12, 1779; service, 2 days, on an alarm at Falmouth; Company ordered out by Brig. Otis. Roll dated Sandwich.

76 NYE, JOSHUA. <sup>8</sup> (Jonathan <sup>2</sup> Jonathan <sup>1</sup> Benjamin)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., Aug. 31, 1733, and removed to Hardwick. Married, in 1758, Lydia Jenkins. Private, Capt. Joel Green's Co., Col. Ezra Wood's Regt.; service between June 1, 1778, and Jan. 31, 1779, 7 mos. 22 days at Peekskill and White Plains; regiment raised for 8 months; also same Co. and Regt.; pay roll for part of May and the month of June 1778; said Nye allowed 13 days service being 1 day in camp, 3 days preceding march and 9 days (180 miles) travel.

77 NYE, LEVI. <sup>3</sup> (Benjamin <sup>2</sup> Jonathan <sup>1</sup> Benjamin).

Born at Sandwich, Mass., April 10, 1743. Married Sarah Freeman. Removed to Lee, Mass., where he died in 1825. Lieutenant, Capt. Jesse Bradley's 20th. (Glass Works now Lee) Co., Col. Benjamin Simonds' (2nd Berkshire Co.) Regt. of Mass. militia; list of officers chosen by the several companies in said regiment; ordered in Council May 4, 1776, that said officers be commissioned; reported commissioned May 3 (?), 1776; commissions reported dated June 1, 1776; also, Lieutenant, Capt. Oliver Belding's Co., Col. John Brown's Regt.; entered service Sept. 21, 1777; discharged Oct. 14, 1777; service, 24 days, at the Northward. Also,

## NEY, LEVI.

Private, Capt. Amos Porter's Co., Col. David Rosetter's (Rossiter's) Regt.; entered service Oct. 14, 1780; discharged Oct. 17, 1780; service, 3 days, on the alarm



at Berkshire of Oct. 14, 1780; also, same Co. and Regt.; entered service Oct. 18, 1780; discharged Oct. 21, 1780; service, 4 days, on the alarm at Berkshire of Oct. 18, 1780.

78 NYE, LOT. (<sup>3</sup>Lemuel <sup>2</sup>Nathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin.)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., in 1730. Died in Barnstable, Aug. 31, 1797. Married, Feb. 27, 1775, Hannah Nye. Served on several committees, including the Committee of Correspondence, and was delegate to the Constitutional Convention. Was Selectman, also Representative for several years. Private, Capt. Simon Fish's Co., Col. Freeman's Regt.; enlisted Sept. 11, 1779; discharged Sept. 14, 1779; service, 4 days, on an alarm at Falmouth; Company ordered out by Brig. Otis. Roll dated Sandwich.

79 NYE, MELETIAH. (<sup>3</sup>Ebenezer <sup>2</sup>Caleb <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Tolland, Conn., April 21, 1734. Died at Glastonbury, Conn., Aug. 4, 1794. In the Lexington alarm he was first Sergeant in the Glastonbury Co.; also, Sergeant in the 6th Co. of the 6th Regt. of the Connecticut line commanded by Lieut. Stephen Andrews, for service in New York State. Pay roll showing said Nye entitled to pay for services, travel and sauce money. The epitaph upon his tombstone was given in the address at the first Nye reunion at Sandwich, in 1903.

80 NYE, NATHAN. (<sup>3</sup>Nathan <sup>2</sup>Nathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Rochester, Mass., Sept. 16, 1751. His wife was named Lucy. No record of his death. Private, Capt. Edward Hammond's Co. of Minute-men, Col. Theophilus Cotton's Regt., which marched in response to the alarm of April 19, 1775; service from April 20 to April 26, 1775, 7 days; also, Capt. Samuel Briggs' Co., Col. Theophilus Cotton's Regt., Gen. Palmor's Brigade.; service, 32 days, on a secret expedition to Tiverton, R. I., Sept. 29, 1777; also, order dated Rochester, May 2, 1778, signed by said Nye and others, for bounty for service at Rhode Island in Samuel Briggs' Co., Col. Cotton's Regt., payable to Lieut. Solomon Young.

81 NYE, NATHAN. (<sup>4</sup>Nathaniel <sup>3</sup>Peleg <sup>2</sup>John <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., Jan. 29, 1747. His wife's



name was Sarah. He died at some time later than 1824; no later record is found. Private, Capt. Simeon Fish's Co., Co. Freeman's Regt.; service, 11 days, on an alarm at Dartmouth and Falmouth in Sept., 1778; also, same Co. and Regt.; enlisted Sept. 10, 1779; discharged Sept. 16, 1779; service, 7 days, on an alarm at Falmouth; Company ordered out by Brig. Otis; roll dated Sandwich.

82 NYE, NATHAN. (<sup>4</sup>Stephen <sup>3</sup>Nathan <sup>2</sup>John <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., Feb. 20, 1749. Was prominent in town affairs, serving as Assessor, Tax Collector, Town Clerk, Treasurer, Justice of the Peace, and for twenty-two years as Selectman. He died in 1826. (Also given NATHAN, Jr.) Adjutant, Col. Nathaniel Freeman's (1st Barnstable Co.) Regt. of Mass. militia; list of officers; commissioned June 5, 1778; also, Adjutant, Col. Nathaniel Freeman's Regt. abstract for wages and mileage due staff officers for service on sundry alarms at Falmouth and Bedford; service, 22 days, viz.: 2 days, on the alarm of May 20, 1778, 12 days, on the alarm of Sept. 16, 1778, 5 days on the alarm of April 1, 1779, and 3 days, on the alarm of May 16, 1779; also, same Regt.; engaged Sept. 6, 1779; discharged Sept. 16, 1779; service, 11 days, by order of Brig. Otis on an alarm at Falmouth.

83 NYE, NATHAN. (<sup>4</sup>Benjamin <sup>3</sup>Benjamin <sup>2</sup>Ebenezer <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Falmouth, Mass., Feb. 28, 1744. Married, Jan. 11, 1767, Lucy Chadwick. Died in Falmouth, Jan. 26, 1812. Private, Capt. Joseph Palmer's Co., Col. John Cushing's Regt.; marched Sept. 27, 1876; service, 36 days, at Rhode Island roll dated Newport and sworn to at Falmouth; also, Capt. Joseph Palmer's Co., Col. Freeman's Regt.; service, 6 days, on an alarm at Dartmouth and Falmouth in Sept., 1778; also, same Co. and Regt.; service, 6 days; Company marched on alarms at Falmouth Feb. 4, April 2, and May 16, 1779; roll sworn to in Barnstable Co.; also, pay roll of a company raised in Falmouth, Barnstable Co., by Joseph Dimuck, Esq., to guard the shore; enlisted June 10, (1783); discharged Nov. 15 (1783); service 5 mos. 5 days; warrant drawn in favor of Selectmen of Falmouth.





- 84 NYE, NATHAN. (Genealogy untraced.)

Middleborough. Descriptive list of men raised to reinforce the Continental Army for the term of six months, agreeable to resolve of June 5, 1780, returned as received of Justin Ely, Commissioner, by Brig. Gen. John Glover, at Springfield, July 17, 1780; age, 18 years; stature, 5 ft. 8 in.; complexion, freckled; engaged for town of Middleborough; marched to camp July 17, 1780, under command of Capt. Abner Howard; also, list of men raised for the six months service and returned by Brig. Gen. Paterson as having passed muster in a return dated Camp Totoway, Oct. 25 1780.

- 85 NYE, NATHAN. (Genealogy untraced.)

Sandwich. List of men raised for the six months service and returned by Brig. Gen. Paterson as having passed muster in a return dated Camp Totoway, Oct. 25, 1780.

- 86 NYE, NATHAN. (Genealogy untraced.)

Private, Capt. Thomas Crandon's Co., Col. John Hathaway's Regt; entered service Aug 2, 1780; discharged Aug. 8, 1780; service, 6 days, on an alarm at Rhode Island.

- 87 NYE, NATHAN. (Genealogy untraced.)

NEY, NATHAN.

Private, Lieut. Col. Cobb's Co., Col. Henry Jackson's (16th) Regt.; pay roll for June and July, 1780; reported sick and absent; also, pay roll for six months men raised by the town of Middleborough for service in the Continental Army during 1780; marched to camp July 11, 1780; discharged Dec. 11, 1780; service, 5 mos. 12 days, including travel (240 miles) from place of discharge home.

- 88 NYE, NATHAN, Jr. (Genealogy untraced).

Pay roll of officers and crew of the brigantine "Rising Empire," commanded by Capt. Richard Whellen, sworn to in Bristol Co.; engaged June 14, 1776; discharged Sept. 3, 1776; service, 2 mos. 20 days.

- 89 NYE, NATHANIEL, Jr. (Nathaniel Peleg John Benjamin)  
Born at Sandwich, Mass., Jan. 18, 1754. Married



first, Elizabeth Chipman Smith. The name of his second wife was Celia. He died in Sandwich, July 23, 1799. Sandwich. Private, Capt. Ward Swift's (2nd Sandwich) Co. of Militia, which marched in response to the alarm of April 19, 1775; service, 3 days. Also,

Sandwich. Sergeant, Capt. Joseph Palmer's Co., Col. Josiah Whitney's Regt.; arrived at camp May 16, 1777; discharged July 11, 1777; service, 2 mos. 2 days, at Rhode Island, including 7 days (150 miles) travel to and from camp; Company raised for two months. Roll dated camp at South Kingston.

90 NYE, OBADIAH. (Thomas Jonathan Benjamin)

Born at Dartmouth, Mass., Sept. 15, 1736. He died Nov. 10, 1815. Married first, Mary Sellers; second, Mrs. Freelove Babcock Maxfield. He was called Captain Nye. Marine, frigate "Boston," commanded by Capt. Samuel Tucker; engaged March 31, 1779; roll made up for advance pay for one month; reported discharged April 2, 1779. Also,

NYE, OBED.

Private, Capt. Henry Jenne's Co., Col. John Hathaway's (2nd Bristol Co.) Regt.; entered service Aug. 2, 1780; discharged Aug. 8, 1780; service, 6 days, at Rhode Island on an alarm. Roll certified at Dartmouth.

91 NYE, OLIVER. (Jonathan Jonathan Jonathan Benjamin)

Born at Hardwick, Mass., in March, 1762. Married Lucy Houghton, and later lived at Bennington, Vt., where he died. Private, Capt. John Richardson's Co., Col. Samuel Denny's Regt.; enlisted Oct. 19, 1779; discharged Nov. 23, 1779; service, 1. mo. 12 days, at Claverack, including 7 days (140 miles) travel home; Regiment raised for three months. Roll sworn to in Worcester Co.

92 NYE, PAUL. (Silas Ebenezer John Benjamin)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., Mch. 30, 1756. Private, Capt. Joseph Smith's detachment of militia from the town of Wellfleet, Col. Freeman's Regt.; service, 2 days; detachment marched to Falmouth Sept. 10, 1778, by order of Brig. Joseph Otis on an alarm.

93 NYE, PAUL. (Genealogy untraced).

Marine, ship "Mars," commanded by Capt. James





Nivens; engaged April 18, 1781; discharged June 12, 1781; service, 1 mo. 25 days. Roll dated Boston.

- 94 NYE, PELEG. (Nathaniel<sup>4</sup> Peleg<sup>3</sup> John<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., Aug. 14, 1743. The name of his wife was Sarah. Private, Capt. Simeon Fish's Co., Col. Freeman's Regt.; service, 11 days, on an alarm at Dartmouth and Falmouth in Sept., 1778; also, same Co. and Regt.; enlisted Sept. 11, 1779; discharged Sept. 12, 1779; service, 2 days; on an alarm at Falmouth; Company ordered out by Brig. Otis; roll dated Sandwich.

- 95 NYE, PETER. (Nathaniel<sup>4</sup> Peleg<sup>3</sup> John<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., Feb. 1, 1745. Married first, Esther Nye; and probably a second time, as records show Olive, his wife, dying in 1796. He was Representative in 1812. 2nd Lieutenant, Capt. Simeon Fish's Co. (3rd), 1st Barnstable Co. Regt. of Mass. Militia; list of officers; commissioned June 5, 1778; also, Lieutenant, Capt. Simeon Fish's Co., Col. Freeman's Regt.; service, 11 days, on an alarm at Dartmouth and Falmouth in Sept., 1778; also, same Co. and Regt.; enlisted Sept. 10, 1779; discharged Sept. 15, 1779; service, 6 days, on an alarm at Falmouth; Company ordered out by Brig. Otis; roll dated Sandwich.

- 96 NYE, PHILIP. (Isaac<sup>3</sup> Jonathan<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>)

Born in 1744. Married Mrs. Susan Pomeroy, of Middletown, Mass. He died in 1814. Plympton. Private, Capt. John Bridgham's Co., which marched on the alarm of April 19, 1775, to Marshfield and then returned by order of Col. Cotton; service, 12 days; reported enlisted into the army; also, Capt. John Bridgham's Co., Col. Theophilus Cotton's Regt.; muster roll dated Aug. 1, 1775; enlisted May 2, 1775; service, 3 mos. 7 days; also, company return dated Oct. 7, 1775; also, order for bounty coat or its equivalent in money dated Camp at Roxbury, Nov. 11, 1775.

- 97 NYE, PHILIP. (George<sup>4</sup> Ichabod<sup>3</sup> Jonathan<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>)

Born at Rochester, Mass., in 1758. Married, Dec. 16, 1784, Percis Pollard; and resided at New Braintree, where he died Jan. 29, 1805. His widow married Deacon Daniel Chamberlain, of Westborough, Mass.



Private, Capt. Francis Stone's Co., Col. James Converse's (Worcester Co.) Regt.; service, 3 days, on an alarm at Bennington in Aug., 1777; also, Capt. Shipple's Co., Col. Abijah Stearns' Regt.; entered service March 30, 1778; service to July 2, 1778, 3 mos. 3 days, guarding troops of convention; roll sworn to in Worcester Co.; also, Capt. Newell's Co.; enlisted Nov. 3, 1778; discharged Nov. 18, 1778; service, 15 days; company detached from Gen. Warner's brigade to join Col. Gerrish's Regt. of guards and escort troops of Saratoga convention from Rutland to Enfield, Conn.

98 NYE, PRINCE. (<sup>3</sup>Caleb <sup>2</sup>Nathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Harwick, Mass., Mch. 17, 1753. Died July 24, 1812. He served as Selectman for many years.

Hardwick. Private, Capt. Simeon Hazeltine's Co. of Minute-men, which marched on the alarm of April 19, 1775; service, 16 days; also, Capt. Isaac Martin's Co., Col. Ezra Wood's Regt.; service, 6 days, including travel (56 miles) to and from camp; company marched to Rhode Island under command of Lieut. Col. Nathan Tyler on the alarm of Dec. 8, 1776; also, same Co. and Regt.; service 23 days; company marched to Rhode Island April 17, 1777, and served until May 7, 1777, under Maj. Gen. Spencer; also, Capt. Timothy Paige's Co., Col. James Converse's Regt.; enlisted Aug. 21, 1777; discharged Aug. 31, 1777; service, 10 days; company marched to Bennington on an alarm.

99 NYE, SAMUEL. (<sup>3</sup>Joseph <sup>2</sup>Jonathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., Mch. 24, 1749. He was a physician, and a graduate of Harvard University. He died at Salisbury, Mass., Aug. 31, 1834. He served on the Committee of Safety, in 1774.

Newbury Doctor, ship "America," commanded by Capt. John Somes; descriptive list of officers and crew, sworn to in Suffolk Co., June 8, 1780; age, 27 years; stature, 5 ft. 6 in.; complexion, dark; residence, Newbury.

100 NYE, SAMUEL. (<sup>4</sup>Benjamin <sup>3</sup>Benjamin <sup>2</sup>John <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., Mch. 15, 1746. Married, Jan. 12, 1772; Deborah Crowell. Died at Falmouth, Mch. 17, 1814. Private, Capt. Joseph Palmer's Co., Col. Freeman's Regt.; service, 6 days, on an alarm at



Dartmouth and Falmouth in Sept., 1778; roll sworn to in Barnstable Co.; also, same Co. and Regt.; service, 8 days; company marched on alarms at Falmouth Feb. 4, April 2, and May 16, 1779; roll sworn to in Barnstable Co.; also, Capt. Samuel Fish's Co., Col. Freeman's Regt.; service, 8 days, on an alarm at Dartmouth and Falmouth in Sept., 1779 also, pay roll of a company raised by vote of the town of Falmouth, Barnstable Co. to guard the shore enlisted July 20, 1781 discharged Sept. 28, 1781 service, 2 mos. 8 days warrant drawn in favor of Selectmen of Falmouth also, pay roll of a company raised in Falmouth, Barnstable Co. by Joseph Dimuck, Esq., to guard the shore; enlisted June 10, (1783); discharged Nov. 15 (1783); service, 5 mos. 5 days warrant drawn in favor of Selectmen of Falmouth.

- 101 NYE, SAMUEL. (<sup>3</sup>Ebenezer <sup>2</sup>Caleb <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Tolland, Conn. July 20 1738. Died there, May 8, 1817. Married Abigail Benton. In list of sundry presons who joined the 2nd Regt. of the Connecticut line as short levies in the year 1781. According to one of his descendants, he also served in the Company of Capt. Barker.

- 102 NYE, SETH. (<sup>4</sup>Seth <sup>3</sup>Benjamin <sup>2</sup>John <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Falmouth, Mass., Aug. 7, 1756. After the war he removed to Lee, Mass., where he married, Oct. 13, 1779, Amy West; later removing to Venice, near Auburn, N. Y., where he died, Jan. 18, 1840.

Falmouth. Private, in a company commanded by Capt. Ward Swift, of Sandwich; return for bounty allowed for service on a secret expedition to Rhode Island in Oct. 1777. Also,

NYE, SETH.

Private, Capt. John Grannis' Co.; enlisted July 4, 1775; service to Dec. 31, 1775, 6 mos. 13 days; company stationed at Elizabeth Islands. Also served in the 14th Albany Regt. commanded by Col. Peter Yates.

- 103 NYE, SMITH. (Genealogy untraced).

Private, Capt. John Russell's Co., marched July 28, 1776; service, 10 days; reported enlisted into the Con-





tinental Army Aug. 10, 1776; company stationed at Martha's Vineyard for defence of seacoast.

104 NYE, SILAS. (<sup>3</sup>Caleb <sup>2</sup>Nathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Barnstable, Mass., in 1744. Married Patience Carpenter. After the close of the war removed to Salem, Washington County, N. Y., and later to Pittsford, Monroe County, where he died. Served there for several years as Supervisor. Hutchinson (Barre). Corporal, Capt. John Black's Co., Col. Jonathan Brewer's Regt.; muster roll dated Aug. 1, 1775; enlisted April 20, 1775; service, 3 mos. 13 days; also, (late) Capt. John Black's Co., Col. Jonathan Brewer's Regt.; company return (probably Oct., 1775); also, order for bounty coat or its equivalent in money dated Camp at Prospect Hill, Oct. 26, 1775; also, petition signed by said Nye and others belonging to Capt. Black's Co., Col. Brewer's Regt.; asking for allowance for articles lost in battle at Bunker Hill, June 17, 1775; said Nye claimed compensation for loss of a coat; certificate dated Hutchinson, April 28, 1776, signed by Capt. Black, certifies to correctness of statements in above petition; amounts allowed by resolve of May 10, 1776; also, Sergeant, Capt. Ephraim Stockwell's Co., Col. Job Cushing's Regt.; engaged July 28, 1777; discharged Aug. 29, 1777; service, 1 mo. 7 days, including 5 days (110 miles) travel home; Company marched to Bennington July 28, 1777, to reinforce army under Gen. Stark; also, Capt. Benjamin Nye's Co.; enlisted Sept. 26, 1777; discharged Oct. 18, 1777; service, 29 days; Company marched under command of Maj. Jonas Wilder to reinforce Northern army for 30 days.

105 NYE, SILAS. (<sup>3</sup>Ebenezer <sup>2</sup>John <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., in 1725; died there, in 1795. Married, Jan. 1, 1748, Elizabeth Hall. Private, Capt. Simeon Fish's Co., Col. Freeman's Regt.; enlisted Sept. 11, 1779; discharged Sept. 12, 1779; service, 2 days, on an alarm at Falmouth; Company ordered out by Brig. Otis. Roll dated Sandwich.

106 NYE, SILAS. (<sup>3</sup>Ebenezer <sup>2</sup>Caleb <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Tolland, Conn., Aug. 21, 1740, and lived in Glastonbury. Served in the First Conn. Regt. commanded by Col. Wolcott, in Capt. Hyde's Co. This



Company was enlisted as an independent company. See records of Council of Safety, Aug. 16, 1776, also travel roll of Col. Erastus Wolcott's Regt. of Militia from Lebanon to New York, Capt. Walter Hyde's Co. Also in Capt. David Dewey's Co. of Col. Obadiah Johnson's Regt., according to a descendant.

- 107 NYE, SOLOMON. (<sup>4</sup>Meletiah <sup>3</sup>Ebenezer <sup>2</sup>Caleb <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Glastonbury, Conn., in 1764. Married, April 4, 1784, Lois Fuller. Served as Private in the Revolution, and was on the pension list in 1833. Removed to Berlin, Vt., where he died March 1, 1857.

- 108 NYE, STEPHEN. (<sup>3</sup>David <sup>2</sup>Jonathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Rochester, Mass., in 1756. Died at Greenwich, R. I., in 1782.

Douglas. Private, Capt. Edward Seagrave's Co., Col. Joseph Read's (20th) Regt.; muster roll dated Aug. 1, 1775; enlisted May 12, 1775; service, 2 mos. 25 days; also, company return dated Sept. 25, 1775; also, order for bounty coat or its equivalent in money dated Roxbury, Dec. 21, 1775. Also, Private, Capt. Isaac Martin's Co., Col. Ezra Wood's Regt.; service, 1 mo. 15 days; company marched to Rhode Island under command of Lieut. Col. Nathan Tyler on the alarm of Dec. 8, 1776; also, Sergeant, Capt. Job Knap's Co., Col. Job Cushing's Regt.; marched and joined company Aug. 29, 1777; discharged Nov. 29, (also given Nov. 30), 1777; service, 3 mos. 23 days (also given 3 mos. 24 days) at the Northward, including 10 days (200 miles) travel home; roll sworn to in Worcester Co.

- 109 NYE, STEPHEN. (<sup>4</sup>Stephen <sup>3</sup>Nathan <sup>2</sup>John <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., April 30, 1753. (Also given STEPHEN, Jr.). Sandwich. Lieutenant, Cap. John Grannis' Co.; engaged July 1, 1775; service to Dec. 31, 1775, 6 mos. 16 days; Company stationed at Elizabeth Islands; also, 1st Lieutenant, Capt. Elisha Nye's (4th) Co.; list of officers, seacoast; commissioned Jan. 1, 1776; Company stationed at Elizabeth Islands and Martha's Vineyard; also, Lieutenant, Capt. Elisha Nye's Co.; entered service Jan. 4, 1776; service to Nov. 21, 1776, 10 mos. 18 days; Company stationed at Elizabeth Islands for defence of seacoast; also, Captain; return of officers of a company to be stationed at Eliza-





both Islands for defence of seacoast; ordered in Council Dec. 11, 1776, that said officers be commissioned; reported commissioned Dec. 11, 1776; also, official record of a ballot by the House of Representatives, dated Jan. 10, 1777; said Nye chosen 1st Lieutenant, Capt. Elisha Nye's Co. stationed at Naushon and Elizabeth Islands; appointment concurred in by Council Jan. 10, 1777; reported commissioned Dec. 16, 1776; also, Lieutenant, Col. Bradford's Regt.; Continental Army pay accounts for service from Jan. 1, 1777, to Nov. 26, 1777; reported resigned Nov. 26, 1777; also, Lieutenant, Capt. Joseph Wadsworth's Co., Col. Gamaliel Bradford's Regt.; return dated Valley Forge, Jan. 28, 1778; residence, Sandwich; enlisted for town of Sandwich; mustered by County and Continental Muster Masters; reported resigned.

110 NYE, STEPHEN, Jr. (<sup>4</sup>Stephen <sup>3</sup>Thomas <sup>2</sup>Jonathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Dartmouth, Mass., about 1755. Married there, Dec. 28, 1786, Mary Eldred. Private, Capt. Simeon Fish's Co., Col. Freeman's Regt.; service, 11 days, on an alarm at Dartmouth and Falmouth in Sept., 1778; also, same Co. and Regt.; enlisted Sept. 11, 1779; discharged Sept. 14, 1779.; service, 4 days, on an alarm at Falmouth; Company ordered out by Brig. Otis; roll dated Sandwich.

111 NYE, STEPHEN. (<sup>8</sup>Nathan <sup>2</sup>John <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., June 6, 1720. Died there, July 6, 1810. Married, June 7, 1744, Maria Bourne. He was very prominent in town affairs during the Revolution. Was a member of the Committee of Safety, and delegate to the 1st and 2nd Provincial Congresses of Massachusetts. He served as a deputy to the General Court for eighteen years.

112 NYE, STEPHEN, 3rd. (<sup>4</sup>Lot <sup>3</sup>Lemuel <sup>2</sup>Nathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., in 1756. Married Abigail Crocker; and died March 25, 1791. Private, Capt. Simeon Fish's Co., Col. Freeman's Regt.; service, 8 days, on an alarm at Dartmouth and Falmouth in Sept. 1778.

113 NYE, S. STURGES. (<sup>4</sup>Ebenezer <sup>3</sup>Caleb <sup>2</sup>Nathan <sup>1</sup>Benjamin)



# NYE, STURGIS.

Private Capt. Timothy Paige's Co., Col. John Rand's Regt.; enlisted July 5, 1780; discharged Oct. 10, 1780; service, 3 mos. 15 days, at West Point, including 9 days (180 miles) travel home; regiment raised for three months. Roll sworn to in Worcester Co.

# 114 NYE SYLVANUS. (Benjamin<sup>4</sup> Caleb<sup>3</sup> Nathan<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>)

Born in 1762. Married, March 2, 1779, Mary Banks, of Keene, N. H. He settled in Roxbury, N. H., where he died July 25, 1814.

Barre. Private, Capt. William Henry's Co., Col. Whitney's Regt.; enlisted May 5, 1777; discharged July 5, 1777; service, 2 mos. 8 days, at Rhode Island, including 5 days (100 miles) travel home.

# 115 NYE, SYLVANUS. (Joseph<sup>3</sup> Jonathan<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., Aug. 12, 1744. His wife's name is given in his will as Rebecca Parker. Served as Selectman for eight years, and also as Justice of the Peace.

Private, Capt. Simeon Fish's Co., Col. Freeman's Regt.; service, 11 days, on an alarm at Dartmouth and Falmouth in Sept., 1778.

# 116 NYE, SYLVANUS. (Shubal<sup>4</sup> Meletiah<sup>3</sup> Ebenezer<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>)

Born at Falmouth, Mass., Aug. 1, 1753. Married Silverna Barlow; and removed to South Armenia, N. Y., where he died March 5, 1841. During the Revolutionary War he served in the 6th New York Dutchess County Militia.

# 117 NYE, THOMAS. (Obed<sup>4</sup> Thomas<sup>3</sup> Jonathan<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>)

Born at Dartmouth, Mass., Sept. 28, 1768. Married, Nov. 6, 1791, Hannah, daughter of Stephen and Abigail Hathaway. He resided in New Bedford, and was Representative in 1809. He died June 22, 1842.

Private, Capt. Henry Jenne's Co., Col. John Hathaway's (2nd Bristol Co.) Regt.; entered service Aug. 2, 1780; discharged Aug. 8, 1780; service 6 days, at Rhode Island on an alarm. Roll certified at Dartmouth.

# 118 NYE, THOMAS. (Benjamin<sup>3</sup> Jonathan<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., Jan. 21, 1741. Died in 1788. Married Thankful Blossom.



Ensign, Capt. Simeon Fish's (1st Sandwich) Co., Col. Joseph Otis' (1st Barnstable Co.) Regt.; list of officers of militia; returned as sworn by officers appointed for that purpose, dated Sept. 29, 1775. Also,

# NYE, THOMAS.

Private, in a company commanded by Capt. Job Crocker, of Eastham, Col. Nathan Sparhawk's Regt.; entered service July 2, 1777; discharged Dec. 12, 1777; service, 5 mos. 17 days, at Rhode Island and sundry places in Massachusetts, including 3 days (62 miles) travel home; Company raised to serve for 6 months from July 1, 1777, unless sooner discharged. Also,

# NYE, THOMAS.

Private, Capt. Simeon Fish's Co., Col. Freeman's Regt.; service, 11 days, on an alarm at Dartmouth and Falmouth in Sept., 1778.

# 119 NYE, THOMAS. <sup>4</sup> <sup>3</sup> <sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup> (Solomon Meletiah Ebenezer Benjamin)

Born at Falmouth, Mass., Jan. 1, 1763. Married Mary Ellis. Died Nov. 9, 1835. Descriptive list of men raised to reinforce the Continental Army for the term of six months, agreeable to resolve of June 5, 1780, returned as received of Justin Ely, Commissioner, by Brig. Gen. John Glover, at Springfield, July 19, 1780; age, 18 years; stature, 5 ft. 8 in.; complexion, light; engaged for town of Falmouth; marched to camp July 19, 1780, under command of Capt. Clark; also, pay roll for six months men raised by the town of Falmouth, Barnstable Co. for service in the Continental Army during 1780; marched July 6, 1780; discharged Jan. 1, 1781; service, 6 mos. 11 days, including travel (300 miles) home.

# NEY, TIMOTHY.

2nd Lieutenant, Capt. Joseph Smith's Co.; entered service July 1, 1775; discharged Dec. 31, 1775; service, 6 mos. 16 days, in defence of seacoast.

# 120 NYE, THOMAS. (Genealogy untraced).

# NEY, THOMAS.

Private, Capt. Micah Hamlen's Co., Col. Joanthan Reed's (1st) Regt. of guards; marched April 7, 1778; service to July 6, 1778, 2 mos. 28 days, at Cambridge.





including 4 days (80 miles) travel home; roll sworn to in Barnstable Co.; also, same Co. and Regt.; muster roll dated Cambridge, June 1, 1778; enlisted May 7, 1778; enlistment, 3 months from April 2, 1778.

121 NYE, THOMAS, 2nd. (Genealogy untraced).

Descriptive list of men raised to serve in the Continental Army for the term of nine months, agreeable to resolve of June 9, 1779, returned as received of Justin Ely, Commissioner, by Capt. James Tisdale, at Springfield, Aug. 23, 1779; Capt. Fisk's (Fish's) Co., Col. Freeman's Regt.; age, 18 years; stature, 5 ft. 4 in.; complexion, dark; engaged for town of Sandwich; also, company receipt for equipments, given to Capt. James Tisdale, dated Aug. 23, 1779.

122 NYE, TIMOTHY. (Benjamin<sup>8</sup> Jonathan<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., June 13, 1747. Married Keziah Nye. Removed to Orrington, Me., where he died Feb. 5, 1813.

123 NYE, WILLIAM. (Nathan<sup>4</sup> Nathan<sup>3</sup> John<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., Nov. 17, 1749. Married, Nov. 15, 1772, Eunice Handy, of Rochester. He lived in New Braintree, where he died in July, 1826.

Rochester. Sergeant, Capt. Edward Hammond's Co. of Minute-men, Col. Theophilus Cotton's Regt., which marched in response to the alarm of April 19, 1775; service from April 20, to April 26, 1775, 7 days.

124 NYE, WILLIAM. (Jonathan<sup>4</sup> Jonathan<sup>3</sup> Jonathan<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., in June, 1758. Married Mary Purington, of Hardwick Mass., Dec. 26, 1782. Removed to Halifax, Vt., where in 1801 he again married, his wife's name being Anna Adams. He died Dec. 8, 1833.

Private, Capt. Timothy Paige's Co., Col. James Converse's Regt.; enlisted Aug. 21, 1777; discharged Aug. 31, 1777; service, 10 days; Company marched to Bennington on an alarm; also, Capt. Thomas Whipple's Co., Col. Abijah Stearn's Regt.; entered service March 30, 1778; service to July 2, 1778, 3 mos. 3 days, guarding troops of convention; roll sworn to in Worcester Co.; also, Capt. Joseph Richardson's Co., Col. Samuel Denny's Regt.; enlisted Oct. 19, 1779; dis-



charged Nov. 23, 1779; service, 1 mo. 12 days, at Claverack, including 7 days (140 miles) travel home; Regiment raised for three months; roll sworn to in Worcester Co.

- 4                      3                      2                      1
- 125 NYE, WILLIAM, 2nd. (Stephen Nathan John Benjamin)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., July 24, 1760. He died in Sandwich, in 1830. Descriptive list of men raised to serve in the Continental Army for the term of nine months, agreeable to resolve of June 9, 1779, returned as received of Justin Ely, Commissioner, by Capt. James Tisdale, at Springfield, Aug. 23, 1779; Capt. Fish's Co., Col. Freeman's Regt.; age, 19 years; stature, 5 ft. 7 in., complexion, dark; engaged for town of Sandwich; also, company receipt for equipments, given to Capt. James Tisdale, dated Aug. 23, 1779; also, Capt. Wadsworth's Co.; entered service Aug. 17, 1779; discharged May 16, 1780; term, 9 months.

- 126 NYE, WILLIAM. (Genealogy untraced).

Capt. Stephen Churchill's Co., Col. Theophilus Cotton's Regt.; engaged March 9, 1781; service, 23 days, at Newport, R. I.; Company raised by order of His Excellency John Hancock to serve for 40 days unless sooner discharged.

- 127 NYE, WILLIAM. Genealogy untraced).

(Also given WILLIAM, Jr.) Descriptive list of men raised to reinforce the Continental Army for the term of six months, agreeable to resolve of June 5, 1780, returned as received of Justin Ely, Commissioner, by Brig. Gen. John Glover, at Springfield, July 19, 1780; age, 19 years; stature, 5 ft. 9 in.; complexion, dark; engaged for town of Sandwich; marched to camp July 19, 1780, under command of Capt. Clark; also, Private, Capt. Willim Scott's (Light Infantry) Co., Col. Henry Jackson's (16th) Regt.; pay roll for June and July, 1780; joined July 19, 1780; also, pay roll for six months men raised by the town of Sandwich for service in the Continental Army during 1780; marched July 11, 1780; discharged Dec. 3, 1780; service, 5 mos. 6 days, including travel (280 miles) from place of discharge.





## 128 NYE, WILLIAM. (Genealogy untraced.)

Sandwich. Private, Capt. Ward Swift's Co.; return for bounty allowed for service on secret expedition to Rhode Island in Oct., 1777; also, Capt. Simeon Fish's Co., Col. Freeman's Regt.; service, 8 days, on an alarm at Dartmouth and Falmouth in Sept., 1778.

## 129 NYE, WILLIAM. (Genealogy untraced.)

Private, in a company commanded by Capt. Crocker, of Eastham, Col. Nathan Sparhawk's Regt.; entered service July 2, 1777; discharged Dec. 12, 1777; service, 5 mos. 17 days, at Rhode Island and sundry places in Massachusetts, including three days (62 miles) travel home; company raised to serve for six months from July 1, 1777, unless sooner discharged.

## 130 NYE, WILLIAM. (Genealogy untraced).

2nd Co. commanded by Lieut. John Doty, Col. Ebenezer Sprouts' Regt.; entered service May 6, 1778; discharged May 7, 1778; service, 2 days, on an alarm at Dartmouth; roll sworn to in Plymouth Co.; also, same Co. and Regt.; entered service Sept. 5, 1778; discharged Sept. 11, 1778; service, 6 days, on an alarm at Dartmouth; roll sworn to in Plymouth Co.

131 ZENAS. (Stephen<sup>4</sup> Nathan<sup>3</sup> John<sup>2</sup> Benjamin<sup>1</sup>)

Born at Sandwich, Mass., March 31, 1763. Married Mary, daughter of Seth and Experience Hatch Freeman. He was Justice of the Peace; and died Oct. 12, 1828.

Private, Capt. Simeon Fish's Co., Col. Freeman's Regt.; enlisted Sept. 11, 1779; discharged Sept. 12, 1779; service, 2 days, on an alarm at Falmouth; Company ordered out by Brig. Otis. Roll dated Sandwich.

Mrs. Helen Nye Rupp of Monmouth Ill., who expected to be with us but was detained by illness in the family, sent the following regarding Elisha Nye, a soldier of the Revolution:—

## ELISHA NYE

## SOLDIER OF THE REVOLUTION

Elisha Nye was the son of Joshua Nye and Lydia Jenkins



who were married in Barstable, Mass., 1756. Elisha was born in Sandwich, 1761, and died in Woodstock, Vermont, 1848.

Joshua Nye, the father of Elisha, moved with his father, Jonathan, and brothers, to Hardwick, 1762, and his family of several children grew up in this neighborhood.

In 1781, at the age of twenty, Elisha enlisted from Barre, an adjoining town, in the company of Capt. Jonathan Sibley, Col. Luke Drury's Regiment—August 9—serving till the close of the war. After the war he, with his father, removed to Woodstock, Vermont, where he lived the remainder of his life. He married 1790, Drusilla, the daughter of Lieut. David Thomas, a soldier of the Revolution.

HELEN NYE RUPP.

Recollections of Bill Nye—the humorist—by his son was accorded the closest attention, and enjoyed exceedingly by all. Mr. Nye said:

Like some of my more or less fortunate cousins, I happen to be a traveling man. In two cases out of three when I go into a hotel where I am not known, walk up to the desk and inscribe my initials, followed by the three short letters of the name, with which we are all so familiar, the clerk with head screwed around and eyes bulging to decipher the inverted hieroglyphics, and prompted by a desire to flatter and be agreeable for various ulterior motives, inquires: "Any relation to Bill?" Then without waiting for a reply, he goes on to tell of the stories I cut my teeth on. Others, if I mention, that not being consulted in the matter, I do happen to be distantly related to him of Heathen Chineese fame, smile, and with a patronizing air, ask if I do not know that the name "Bill Nye" was a *nom-de-plume*, the real name being Samuel Perkins or something like that.

Of course you have all gone through the agony, dozens of times, of listening to defunct puns, flung at the bearers of our name by aspiring wits, usually upon being introduced, and hinging upon something being nigh unto something. But I think the joke was on the Nye Family when my sister married a man named Pharr. The event would have delighted the heart of Mr.



Emerson as added proof of his doctrine of compensation.

One day when we were living on Staten Island, an Irish lady called upon mother. According to the story, this Mrs. O'Flaherty was the proud possessor of an infant prodigy, who gave promise of making a second Patti. Mother thought an Irish stew a far more profitable result, but waited patiently while her guest went through the preliminaries. The point of the story was that with the help of a piano the progress Patti-ward would be far more rapid, and that a Steinway Grand might answer at a pinch. The honor of bestowing this trifle she generously offered to confer upon mother. Mother explained, however, that as the Nye Family would soon have to lay in a fresh supply of milk tickets, she really must be excused from presenting, even a small thing like a piano. Whereupon the maternal parent of Madam O'Flaherintino-to-be, with a crestfallen and injured air, took her departure. When she had called it had been: "How do you do Mrs. Nye?" But when she closed the door she said: "Good day to ye Mrs. Denyus (D. Nyus.)" Mother was glad she had offered nothing to say about Mrs. Ananias (Anna Nyus).

Have you ever stopped to think what a brief name like Nye is worth to us in dollars and cents compared with such names as Finkelrosensteingoldenberger? I figure that I write my name on an average, five times a day, and that it takes me five seconds per time. At this rate, by having my own, instead of the name just mentioned, I save about two minutes out of every twenty-four hours. As all good Nyes live to be upwards of one hundred years of age, I am reasonably safe in counting myself about twelve hundred hours richer than my Hebrew brother. Reduced to dollars and cents, this amounts to quite a tidy little sum without counting the saving in sign-painters', engravers', lithographers', and printers' bills. What these advantages of the name Nye in brevity and phonetics may have to do with my assigned subject is a question, unless it be that the very shortness and crispness of the name may have had to do with the spread and preservation of Bill Nye's popularity. His articles might have been never so enjoyable, but if they had been signed by some long, drawn-out signature, the public would not have





associated the author's name so intimately with his work.

In fact I plead guilty to an inclination to deviate from the beaten path of my assigned subject, because I feel that there are others better fitted to speak upon it; the reasons being two-fold, as I told the Secretary at the time: in the first place I was a mere child when he died,—more than ten years ago; in the second place, the life of a celebrity is like a painting in being better appreciated at the proper distance, which is seldom the closest range. What I do know of Bill Nye has been gleaned from my own recollection of him as a fond, tho conscientious parent, and from the tales of those who knew him better than I, and who, for the most part, never tire of telling of him.

Many, who did not know him well, imagined that for him success was easily attained. To such I would say, that after the searchlight of Publicity had once been turned in his direction, and during the dozen or so years that he was before the American public, his strides were rapid and apparently without effort; but it was only the superstructure of his life that the public saw. The foundation, which had been laid in valient struggles for education and recognition, was enirely lost sight of by the casual observer. Nye did not go to college; he did not even go to high school; he was too much needed on the farm,—neither could his parents afford such luxuries; nevertheless he found time to gather a vast store of superficial and specific knowledge and to study his fellow man, especially with a view to his vulnerable points for the darts of humor. In short, he was what I delight to term a self-made man. This leads me to relate an incident bearing on the subject of self-made men and illustrating his omnipresent sense of humor.

He and James Whitcomb Riley sat late over their Sunday breakfast. Church bells tolled in the distance. In the shrill, piping voice of a very old man, which both were so fond of assuming, Mr. Riley asked:

"Bill, did it ever strike you, that with all the praise and adulation 'at God gits, it never seems to spile him?"

In the same cracked voice, but higher, Bill replied:

"Well Jim, I sometimes think it's because God's a self-made man."



Nye never bosted of the population of his birthplace,—Shirley, Maine, for the very good reason that there was practically none to boast of after the Nye family had moved out to Wisconsin; nevertheless he could not help resenting the slur cast upon it by one of the shining literary lights at the time of his being introduced as Mr. Nye of Shirley, Maine, when the important man of letters remarked: "Shirley? Maine? I never heard of the place." Overcoming his resentment, Nye replied in his dry way: "Neither did I till I was born there." Thus making a fast friend of the new acquaintance.

At the age of three, as he himself expressed it, Nye took his parents by the hand, telling them that Piscataquis County was no place for them. He led them westward to Wisconsin, where the sturdy young pioneer soon made a home for his parents. There was apparently little about his boyhood days to give birth to the mirthful side of his character. A prosaic Wisconsin farm during the fifties and sixties, with a background of plowed fields and plenty of good hard manual labor in the foreground, is hardly the place one would choose to look for the laugh-producing genius it brought forth. So little was this talent suspected, either by its owner or his friends, that after a partial or entire failure as farmer, teacher, miller and agent, he finally resolved that even St. Croix county was no place for him. So loading a few clothes and a lot of scrawled-on paper into his trunk, he struck off towards Wyoming.

His shortcomings seem to have been due to his high strung and consequent over-conscientious nature, rather than to any lack of thought or care on his part. One day, shortly before he left, he was up behind the house pruning fruit trees. So desperate had he become at his repeated failures, that he told his mother as he toiled away at the tough apple boughs, that if he ever came back to the farm it would be either as a success or a corpse. From this it will be gathered that he took his shortcomings as a great misfortune. Time, however, proved them a blessing in disguise, as they led to success in a far more worthy vocation.

In Cheyenne, where he had gone, he was forced to dispose of even the slim contents of his trunk to satisfy the demands of his landlady. At last he succeeded in securing temporary em-





ployment in Laramie. There in 1876 he was admitted to the bar. It was his third examination, as he had failed in the two previous ones, taken before he left Wisconsin. When he had learned of his second failure he rose and humbly addressed the court, saying: "May it please your Honor, must I give bonds for my reappearance, or may I go on my own recognizance?" He practiced with more or less success and later became Justice of the Peace.

While acting in this capacity, a German, arrested on a drunk and disorderly charge, had a good laugh at the expense of the judge's youthful appearance. On being summoned before the court and remarking the boyish face behind the desk, the Deutscher asked: "Ach! Iss dat judge Nye? He looks like der peanuts boy on der train."

It was also in Laramie that he did his first active literary work. There, in addition to his law work, and the position of Postmaster, which he afterwards held, he was engaged by the local daily. The pay was small,—a dollar a column at most, but as he said: "The columns were short, the type large, and I was glad to get the dollar."

One day, as was his wont, Nye had gone down to the station to see that the train from the East got safely in. As it pulled its weary and dusty length up along side the platform and came to a stop, a young lady,—Clara F. Smith, by name, who had come out to Wyoming to visit her brother, chanced to spy Nye's lanky figure, and as she emerged from the car, he returned the glance. It was enough. I have been told that each experienced that peculiar thrill that all lovers-at-sight are supposed to feel. Be that as it may, there was an odd job for the parson before the year was out, and when Miss Clara returned East it was as Miss Clara Smith no longer, but as Mrs. E. W. Nye. In fun, my father often said that his two reasons for marrying her were, first; to get rid of one more Smith, second; she being an orphan, the dangers of an incongenial mother-in-law could be positively avoided.

Each proved the ideal life-partner for the other. Whether it was partly a coincidence I shall not attempt to state, but facts will bear me out in saying that the beginning of Bill Nye's



rapid progress dated concurrently with his marriage certificate. Like many another, his talent was crystalized by the love and influence of two good women. In this case they were his mother and my mother. Because of this, if there are any cynical bachelors here today,—there probably are not, the Nye family never having been noted for its womanhaters,—I should not hesitate to guarantee each a safe and happy passage on the sea of matrimony, providing he can find another Clara F. Smith or her equal.

Nye was peculiarly well posted on at least one of the necessary requirements for a satisfactory help-meet, namely, that of punctuality, by an experience he had had some time before.

There was a young lady in River Falls, the town nearest the Nye Farm that boasted a respectable population, to whom he had been paying marked attention. The pair were to go driving one afternoon at two o'clock. On the dot of the appointed hour, Nye who had come early and had been waiting around the corner to drive up at the crucial moment, made his appearance before Miss Mari's abode, with the best piece of horse-flesh that the meagre resources of the village livery-stable afforded. Altho she had sent word she would be right down, minutes multiplied into quarter and halfhours with no signs of Miss Mari. Nye could feel the livery bill piling up at compound interest: still he tried to hide his impatience, so as to wear as pleasant an expression as possible when the object of his vigil should materialize. About the time the old town clock was whirring and buzzing rustily, preparatory to striking four o'clock, the front door opened, framing a beruffled vision in white. When the vision saw the none too fiery steed, she asked with the kind of pout that was all the rage in '72:

"Why Edgar, you surely do not intend to take me out behind that ancient bag of bones, do you?"

As Nye whipped up the nag and drove off, he said:

"Mari, when I brought this horse here he was real young and spry."

From the life of every man, great or small, there is some lesson to be learned that stands out from among the others; some truth demonstrated beyond other truths; either the man



succeeded because he applied the principle, or he failed because he ignored it. What was the lesson that Bill Nye taught by his forty-five short years of residence on this planet? I think the lesson that he taught above other lessons was the power of the laugh. Altho I cannot prove it, I will venture to say that he learned to laugh before he learned to speak, and perhaps even to cry. When others could see but worry and pain in events, he could ever see the sunny side. There always is a sunny side to everything, and he never missed it. There is always something about the most commonplace incident that will produce a sensation of wholesome mirth in him, who is keyed to receive it. I do not mean the mirthless laugh that speaks the hollow mind, the shallow giggle of the frivolous school-girl, nor yet the sharp laugh of sarcasm; instead the rich and mellow laugh, which proves that he who utters it sees something of the joy of this beautiful creation; and beyond the clouds of present troubles, beholds the perfect sunshine of God's universe; and seeing, is glad.

It was the power of such a laugh that Bill Nye taught and demonstrated; not only by his life's work, but by his life, itself, up to its very close; for even on his death bed he continued to give the world his weekly sacrifice, its Sunday laugh. Each year the public had demanded more of its idol; a little louder or a little longer laugh; but the public was never disappointed.

F. W. NYE.

The next paper was read by Mr. William F. Nye of Fairhaven, our honored friend who is always loyal and generous to the interests of our Association. He always comes, always speaks and all are glad to see and hear him:—

Only that I am one of the oldest of the Nye Family now joining in this our Fourth Reunion, and also fortified as I am with the proud distinction of being a native-born of this delightful old town of Sandwich, would I essay to add anything to the many good words that have been said of our worthy ancestry; and, as on each of the three previous Reunions I have expressed





my hearty appreciation and congratulations of the honorable status of the tribe of Nye, I had thought that you would allow me to suppress my school boy eloquence at this time. But, dear Cousins, I have come here with a glowing heart and a hearty handshake to greet you with all the fervor of kindred ties transmitted to us all along the way since Benjamin and Katherine said their lingering Good-Night's at Father Tupper's gate. And, furthermore, we native-borns want also to especially extend a welcome and our sincere thanks to each of you who have come from afar to pay tribute to this earliest home of the Nye Families on American soil. May you take with you as you return to your homes a flow of patriotism and gladness that you belong to the noble order of Nye.

As for myself, my eighty-two years tell me I may not look forward to many more meetings with you, and especially if the next is deferred for two years as expected. This may be my last, and with Cousin Charles H., I shall have to be retired, but I will now promise that you shall have my messenger—the spirit.

On meeting as we do under the ever tender sentiment of relationship, how very natural that the memories of our childhood and youth become more vivid, and how they will float over the lives we have lived. "Fond recollection" is ever drawing a picture, a panorama all along the lengthened years. The old scripture has it about right—"Once a man and twice a child," and the childhood memories I verily believe are the sweet fruitage of old age, and let me tell you I begin to realize it, for as often as I come back to my native town, and especially to that dear Pocasset home yonder, twelve miles distant, where dwelt the precious mother proud of her large family, and that stirring intelligent father who enjoined upon his five boys and three daughters that industry, economy and frugality would lead them to comfort, competency and happiness, all of which he verified in a life of 92 years—55 of that a strenuous sailor's life. It is then that the tender song 'How dear to my heart are the scenes of my childhood,' will fill the soul—for though the orchard has well nigh vanished, the wildwood is all there, and the "Old Oaken Bucket Still Hangs in the Well." How delighted I would be to take you all through yonder ten mile



stretch of woodland to that early Pocasset home and to that Nye neighborhood of North Falmouth, which to my youthful conception seemed the centre of the universe. But as we must forego the trip, let your mind's eye follow the boy Foster Nye (his name was William, but he was not so called until William F. in full began to adorn a bank check) as he often turged on foot to the Dillingham grocery store miles away in West Falmouth, for family supplies, as often as his mother would send him when his father was far away running the gauntlet of the Corsairs and Buccaneers of the Caribbean Sea. Occasionally you will see him resting by the roadside and prying into the sugar box for the big lumps and extracting a stick of cinnamon or raisins from the packages, for these were tempting to the tooth of the small boy in those days so long ago when candy hepled out only on a Fourth of July celebration. But it is of this Nye neighborhood I want to tell you, for it was there where Ebenezer and John, sons of Benjamin, took up 1,000 acres by grant from Governor Winslow about 1655 and known as the Wicker Keep field up to the present time. As we leave the Pocasset line on the right of the county road through the village comes the residences of James, Samuel, Franklin, Charles, Warren, and on the left were those of Stephen, Ebenezer, Reuben, Sylvanus, Ferdinand, Joshua, Alden, Solomon and others;—and probably there is no other neighborhood in our land where so many were Nye to each other, unless it may be surpassed by the story told by our Cousin, the Honorable Stephen A. Nye of Fairfield, Maine, which he related at our first Reunion in Sandwich, that his great grandfather and two brothers settled Fairfield, Maine. Of these three brothers Elisha had eleven children, Bartlett had twelve and Bryant had thirteen,—so it may be that that Nye neighborhood in Maine woods may have outnumbered the Nye neighborhood of North Falmouth. I have been thinking of going down to Fairfield, Me., to demonstrate whether it was climate, soil or the fragrance of the splendid forests that gave such remarkable impetus to the Nye descent there. However, I appeal to Cousin Charles to certify my statement as to the Nye neighborhood of North Falmouth from whence he came, and let me add that never has a neighborhood existed in the renowned





Commonwealth of Mass., or elsewhere, more sturdy, intelligent and orderly than this Nye neighborhood of North Falmouth and I am glad to observe as I occasionally visit the locality to find after fully 75 years of vivid memory, that I can say as did Mrs. Sigourney of old Plymouth—the spirit of the Pilgrim Fathers has never departed. Charles H. was then a sprightly boy I used to meet, and as was also his Cousin Eben, son of Ebenezer, and Ezra son of James. Little thinking then how our life lines were to run, little thinking then that we would be working together in inaugurating a reunion of the Nye Family of America. Ebenezer Nye was for a long time Postmaster of the village and was known as Squire Ebenezer to designate him, I presume, among so many Ebenezers. He often had business with my father Ebenezer two miles distant, his son Eben often accompanying him, when with my own brother Ebenezer present, I often saw the four Ebenezer Nyes under one roof, and I here must not omit to say that I bear in memory, too, the daughters of these families, and am happy that I can sight you to a beautiful type of them in the person of our most graceful and efficient Secretary, Mrs. S. Curtis Smith.

As I have heretofore said, I am ever interested in learning of the status of the Nye Family whenever and wherever opportunity permits to study the condition of those who bear the name. As a class they are independent and rely upon themselves, and though conservative, possess a good deal of self-assurance, are ever ready in asserting their views in politics and civil rights, and as a class they are outcomers from ecclesiastical superstitions, leaving all that behind as they did when they separated for the Mass. Colony and joined the Plymouth Colony which, brought Father Tupper, Benjamin and Katherine to Sandwich.

If in conclusion I may be permitted to say a word to the younger members of the widely spread Nye family—it is first of all to learn to live up to your line of duty—strenuously perform what presents itself along your life line. Recognition may come slow, but the consciousness of doing your best will lift you to noble manhood and womanhood. Listen and study the voice and expressions of Nature, for as the immortal Cato wrote, she cries aloud through all her works and delights in virtue and "that



which she delights in must be happy."

And ever bear in mind that life is enriched by the hard earned wager of knowledge—and thus obeying your highest aspiration you will ever sing in your hearts the song the angels sang—"Peace on Earth and Good Will to Man," then your chalice cup of the big round years will run o'er with gladness.

Mr. William C. Nye of East Barre, Vt., made the following remarks in his characteristic humor. He again invited the members to visit him. He may some day find himself with a large family on his hands.

I was here with you two years ago and I suppose you all remember the predicament I was in. I intended to come here and speak to you again this year, so I went to work and wrote up a long document, perhaps a longer document than you would care to hear. There was a minister boarding at my house, and one night he wrote up a long sermon to take away with him, but in the hurry of his going he took my speech with him by mistake and left me his sermon, and I can imagine just how he will feel on opening the paper to find a speech instead of his sermon.

I can say that I am glad to be here with you. It has been one of the greatest affairs of my life to think of being here with you two years ago.

There is one little item that I wish to have added to the revolutionary record and that was the record of David Nye. He was born in Falmouth in 1758. He was my grandfather and was an old soldier of the revolution and was wounded in the revolution. Now, I would like very much to have that added to the record.

My grandfather moved to Vermont and raised up a family of seven children: John, Elisha, Chester, Samuel and three others. John was my father. Now, two years ago I could not be quite positive that I could quite connect myself with the line of Benjamin Nye, but today I am prepared to say that I am of that line and so long as I am of that line I am of the same line with you. Since I last saw you I received a letter from a gentleman in



Concord, N. H., asking me if I knew whether my grandfather had a daughter by the name of Mary Tupper Nye. I wrote him back and said that I remembered when a boy of going with my father many times to Norwich, Conn., and hearing my father tell about his Aunt Mary and at certain times he would call her Aunt Mary Tupper Nye and in all probability this Mary Tupper Nye was my grandfather's daughter. Now, that is my good reason for thinking I am in the line of Benjamin Nye. Another reason is that David Nye used the same names that we have way back in the Nye family. There is Benjamin and John and these old names make it sure in my mind that I am in that line.

I wish I could meet you at my home. Vermont you all know is famous for its maple sugar, for its fast horses, for its fine sheep, for its handsome women and homely men. We have a great many Nyes in Vermont. We have two Nyes there that have been nominated for state and commercial affairs and in all probability next September will land them in that position.

Now, cousins, if any of you come to Vermont I hope that you will come to Barre that is so famous throughout the world for its granite quarries, and come and visit me. There is not a person in town who cannot point you to my house as I have lived there for many years. I hope that at your next reunion I can be with you.

I thank you kindly for asking me to speak.

This long session including much important business and many interesting papers adjourned after the audience had heartily joined in singing, "God be with you till we meet again."

#### THURSDAY AFTERNOON

At two o'clock barges, private teams and automobiles conveyed the guests to Spring Hill, a place always of interest to the Nyes. Here Benjamin Nye lived and reared his family. Nearly every house in this settlement has in some generation been the home of his descendants. The same stream, whose





waters turned the wheels that ground the yellow corn for the early colonists, still flows on to the sea. The home of Miss Abbie F. Nye is built upon the site of the original home of Benjamin Nye and is filled with many interesting reminders of "ye olden time." She opened her house as did Mr. and Mrs. S. Curtis Smith, to the visiting relatives. Mrs. Helen Nye Holway was "at home" to the Family, at East Sandwich, and showed her visitors over this extremely attractive house which belonged to Jonathan Nye, son of Benjamin. Here Benjamin and Katherine died. This house has sheltered nine generations of Nyes.

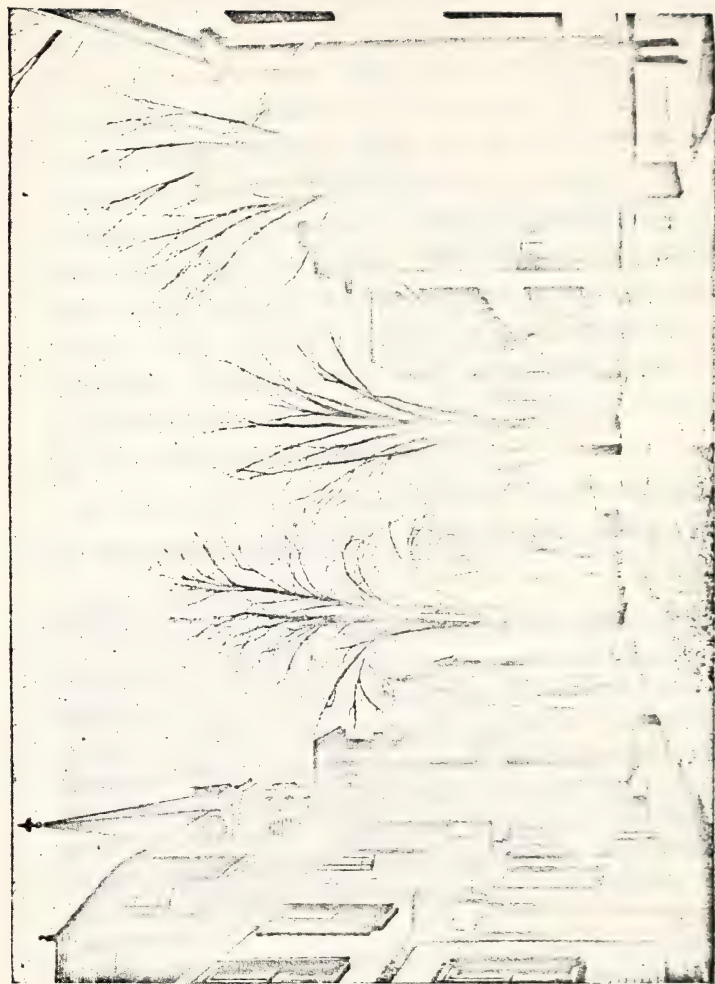
From four to six o'clock all attended a reception given by Mr. and Mrs. Henry A. Belcher, at their beautiful home, "The Overlook."

The afternoon was perfect. Crowds filled the spacious rooms and the broad verandas or wandered through the beautiful flower gardens and over the shaded lawns. Strains of music from the orchestra embowered in the leafy retreat on the veranda were heard above the hum of voices. A fine collation was served and all enjoyed the generous and delightful entertainment furnished by our genial hosts.

#### THURSDAY EVENING

The citizens of Sandwich arranged a mid-summer boat carnival on the lake. There were fire-works and a band of music. Hundreds of spectators enjoyed the fairy-like spectacle of the long line of boats that glided over the water, in and out and around the bends and curves of the shores decorated with Japanese lanterns arranged in most fantastic manner. Great credit was due to the projectors of this very beautiful entertainment.





LEYDEN STREET, PLYMOUTH, MASS.





## FRIDAY MORNING

The last day of the Reunion was devoted to an all day pilgrimage to Plymouth. Several large barges, with private teams and automobiles conveyed the Nye Family to within seven miles of the old historic town. Here special trolley cars were provided. At Plymouth the members of the family were joined by others of their kindred residing there and in the surrounding towns. The day was spent in visiting places of interest. Mr. William F. Nye invited the company to visit Plymouth Hall, filled with relics of the early colonists. Mr. Wesson had provided each with a guide-book giving a complete history of the places of interest. Mr. Benjamin A. Hathaway of Plymouth, a member of the Nye Family, was a most entertaining and interesting guide, and all the party were greatly indebted to these gentlemen for what they did to entertain them.

At Plymouth Rock, Hon. William Davis welcomed the family and gave a short address, which in part, appears below:

## LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:—

As one of the older inhabitants of the town of Plymouth it has devolved on me to welcome you to Plymouth. Sandwich and Plymouth were once neighbors. I assume that all or most of you are either inhabitants of Sandwich or descendants from Benjamin Nye. In 1640 the general court passed a law defining the limits of Plymouth and they extended to the lines of Sandwich for 264 years. After that Plymouth and Sandwich were joined together until in some inscrutable way unknown to me the town of Bourne was incorporated and placed between the two towns.

You have not come here to hear me talk, you have come here to visit sites which were familiar to the Pilgrims. You have visited Pilgrim Hall which belongs to the Pilgrim Society and now you have come to visit the rock which is more closely associated with the Pilgrims.



Wherever you go today you cannot fail to trace the scenes of the Pilgrims. As you pass over Cole's Hill you will see the spot where those who died the first winter were buried. You will see the site of the house where Gov. Bradford lived and as you stand by that site I pray you to remember that great and good man who little thought while performing the duties of life, of the great world he was starting and who little dreamed that 250 years after his death a great republic would claim and honor him as one of its founders.


I pray you to remember these things and I commend to you the words Bradford uttered in response to the members of his family and friends at the beginning of his career, which illustrates and explains the whole Pilgrim movement. He said, "keep a good conscience and walk in the way God prescribed in his holy word, is a thing which I prefer before you all and before life itself."

#### FRIDAY EVENING

The closing exercises of the Nye Family were on Friday evening. All repaired to the Casino which was decorated with Japanese lanterns, oak boughs, potted plants, "flowers and streamers gay." This promenade concert was attended by many of the town's people who joined with the family in a Farewell Reception and Ball.

Thus ended the Fourth Reunion and all said, "We have had a good time—for we have got acquainted," and as we clasped hands with the parting guests, we joined with them in saying, "May we soon meet again."






Mr. James L. Smith, of Roxbury, Mass., the honored and beloved husband of our Treasurer passed away after a long illness, Oct. 1, 1906. The sympathy of every member of the Nye Family Association is extended to the bereaved widow.

—

Mrs. Clara Frances Nye, widow of the famous humorist, "Bill Nye," died near Morgan City, La., November 4, 1906. She was born July 29, 1850 at Chicago, Ill.

—

Mrs. Polly Nye Bates, a beloved member of the Association, born at Westford Vt., Dec. 12, 1825; died at Jericho, Vt., Nov. 9, 1906.







# REGISTERED NAMES OF THOSE PRESENT AT THE FOURTH REUNION

---

Abbott, Mrs. J. H., East Whitman, Mass.	Drew, Miss Marjorie Gates,
Adams, Miss Leola B., Norwood, Mass.	Portsmouth, O.
Armstrong, Mrs. Rosa Nye,	Drew, Miss Rowena Nye, Portsmouth, O.
East Sandwich, Mass.	Dykes, Mrs. Susan Nye,
Armstrong, Mrs. Mabel Nye,	Ridgewood, N. Y.
San Antonio, Texas.	Eastman, Mrs. R. C., Rock, Mass.
Barker, Mrs. Josie E., Natick, Mass.	Eaton, Miss Helen, Allston, Mass.
Bartlett, Herschel, St. Joseph, Mo.	Eaton, Miss Lena K., Allston, Mass.
Bartlett, Mrs. Emilie Nye, St. Joseph, Mo.	Emmons, George M., Russell, Mass.
Bassett, George O., Dorchester, Mass.	Ewer, Mrs. Elizabeth C., Sandwich, Mass.
Bassett, Mrs. Geo. O., Dorchester, Mass.	Finlay, Miss Maria Nye, Hartford, Conn.
Belcher, Henry Alden, Randolph, Mass.	Fish, Miss Emi Alice, Reno, Nev.
Belcher, Mrs. Henry Alden,	Fish, George R., Sandwich, Mass.
Bicknell, Mrs. Abby R., Sandwich, Mass.	Freeman, Mrs. H. H., Boston, Mass.
Blackman, Miss Marion R.,	Freeman, Lucy, Boston, Mass.
East Sandwich, Mass.	Freeman, James Wesson, Boston, Mass.
Boyden, Mrs. A. E., Sandwich, Mass.	Freeman, Mary I., Sandwich, Mass.
Boyden, Willard, Sandwich, Mass.	Gibbs, Kate R., Sagamore, Mass.
Burbank, Louisa D., Boston, Mass.	Haines, Mrs. Sarah Maria,
Chapman, Mrs. Lucy Nye, Brockton, Mass.	Sandwich, Mass.
Chipman, James, Jamaica Plain, Mass.	Haines, Eugene W., Sandwich, Mass.
Chipman, Mrs. Jas., Jamaica Plain, Mass.	Haines, Mrs. Eugene W.,
Chipman, John G., Sandwich, Mass.	Sandwich, Mass.
Chipman, Mrs. Charlotte H.,	Haines, Miss Mary F., Sandwich, Mass.
Sandwich, Mass.	Haines, George H., Sandwich, Mass.
Churchill, Frank, M. D., N. Y. City.	Haines, Mrs. Geo. H., Sandwich, Mass.
Churchill, Mrs. Louise Nye, N. Y. City.	Haines, Johnson, Sandwich, Mass.
Cram, Mrs. Henry B., Cambridge, Mass.	Hathaway, Benjamin A.,
Cram, Henry B., Cambridge, Mass.	Plymouth, Mass.
Crocker, Miss Alice, Barnstable, Mass.	Holway, Mrs. Helen Nye,
Crocker, Mrs. Timothy	East Sandwich, Mass.
South Hyannis, Mass.	Holway, Mrs. Jerome R., Sandwich, Mass.
Crowell, Mrs. Ellen Nye, Sagamore, Mass.	Holway, Miss Amy R., Sandwich, Mass.
Dana, Mrs. Mary S., Marietta, O.	Holway, Alvah S., Sandwich, Mass.
Dana, Miss Frances B., Marietta, O.	Holway, Mrs. Frederick N.,
	Sandwich, Mass.



- Jenkins, Mrs. Mercy P. Nye,  
Roxbury, Mass.
- Lander, Miss Olive S., Portland, Me.
- Lapham, Miss Helen M.,  
Sandwich, Mass.
- Lloyd, Mrs. James, Providence, R. I.
- Luce, Mrs. Annie E. Nye, Marion, Mass.
- McAlpine, Mrs. S. H., Portland, Me.
- Nye, J. Edwin, Auburn, Me.
- Nye, George H. Auburn, N. Y.
- Nye, Miss Agnes Jean, Auburn, N. Y.
- Nye, Miss Maud E., Auburn, N. Y.
- Nye, Mrs. Marcus M., Barnstable, Mass.
- Nye, Miss Josie, Barnstable, Mass.
- Nye, Augustus S., Boston, Mass.
- Nye, Mrs. Alice Campbell, Boston, Mass.
- Nye, Allen T. Boston, Mass.
- Nye, Mrs. Allen T., Boston, Mass.
- Nye, Miss Florence, Boston, Mass.
- Nye, Gurdon F., Boston, Mass.
- Nye, Eben N., Boston, Mass.
- Nye, Ralph Leslie, Boston, Mass.
- Nye, Miss Alberta Eaton, Boston, Mass.
- Nye, Miss Florence G., Brockton, Mass.
- Nye, James H., Brockton, Mass.
- Nye, Joseph B., Brockton, Mass.
- Nye, Joseph B., Jr., Brockton, Mass.
- Nye, William C., Brockton, Mass.
- Nye, Charles F., Brookline, Mass.
- Nye, David D., Bourne, Mass.
- Nye, Mrs. Estlier F., Bourne, Mass.
- Nye, William A., Bourne, Mass.
- Nye, Ida C., Bourne, Mass.
- Nye, Mrs. T. W., Cambridge, Mass.
- Nye, Mrs. Daniel B., Cambridge, Mass.
- Nye, Mrs. Martha E., Chillicothe, O.
- Nye, Miss Endora, Chillicothe, O.
- Nye, W. C., East Barre, Vt.
- Nye, Samuel H., East Sandwich, Mass.
- Nye, Hon. David J., Elyria, O.
- Nye, Mrs. David J., Elyria, O.
- Nye, Mrs. Alfred, Fairhaven, Mass.
- Nye, Mrs. Horace K., Fairhaven, Mass.
- Nye, Alfred Francis, Fairhaven, Mass.
- Nye, Joseph K. Fairhaven, Mass.
- Nye, Rev. Elmer I., Georgia, Vt.
- Nye, Mrs. Elmer I., Georgia, Vt.
- Nye, Charles Henry, Hyannis, Mass.
- Nye, Frank W., New York City.
- Nye, Miss Helen A., N. Falmouth, Mass.
- Nye, William F., New Bedford, Mass.
- Nye, Mrs. Herbert, Providence, R. I.
- Nye, Frank J., Putnam, Ill.
- Nye, Alice M., Putnam, Ill.
- Nye, Miss Mabel M., Riverside, Cuba.
- Nye, Walter E. R., Sagamore, Mass.
- Nye, Mrs. Walter, Sagamore, Mass.
- Nye, Miss Mary B., Sagamore, Mass.
- Nye, Miss Abbie J., Sagamore, Mass.
- Nye, Miss Sarah C., Sagamore, Mass.
- Nye, Miss Dorothy, Sagamore, Mass.
- Nye, Mrs. E. B., Sagamore, Mass.
- Nye, Elizabeth F., Sagamore, Mass.
- Nye, Miss Ida C., Sagamore, Mass.
- Nye, Roswell H., Sagamore, Mass.
- Nye, Alfred G., Sagamore, Mass.
- Nye, Nathan, Sagamore, Mass.
- Nye, Joshua A., Sagamore, Mass.
- Nye, Miss Abbie F., Sandwich, Mass.
- Nye, Levi S., Sandwich, Mass.
- Nye, Mrs. Levi S., Sandwich, Mass.
- Nye, Mrs. Stephen B., Sandwich, Mass.
- Nye, William L., Sandwich, Mass.
- Nye, Mrs. William L., Sandwich, Mass.
- Nye, Miss Mary E., Sandwich, Mass.
- Nye, Miss Annie E., Sandwich, Mass.
- Nye, Miss Carrie M., Sandwich, Mass.
- Nye, T. Wilson, Salem, Mass.
- Nye, H. B., Springfield, Mass.
- Nye, L. C., Springfield, Mass.
- Nye, Miss Emilie P., St. Joseph, Mo.
- Nye, Holmes, Walpole, Mass.
- Nye, Mrs. Holmes, Walpole, Mass.
- Nye, Dr. Fremont Westerly, R. I.
- Nye, Mrs. Fremont, Westerly, R. I.
- Nye, Carlton S., Wareham, Mass.
- Nye, Miss Elizabeth E., Wareham, Mass.
- Parker, Mrs. Virginia H., Boston, Mass.
- Perry, Miss Nannie B.,  
Monument Beach, Mass.





- Pierce, Frank C., Waterbury, Conn. Soule, Mrs. Sophia Nye,  
Pierce, Frederick E. J., Middleboro, Mass.  
Waterbury, Conn. Stoddard, Mrs. John, Fairhaven, Mass.  
Pray, Miss Helen A., Cambridge, Mass. Stoddard, Miss Dorothy,  
Reynolds, Miss Clarabelle Nye, Fairhaven, Mass.  
Springfield, Mass. Tinkham, Frank M., Sandwich, Mass.  
Rogers, George W., Sandwich, Mass. Thompson, Robt. W., Middletown, Conn.  
Rogers, Mrs. Clara Nye, Sandwich, Mass. Towne, Mrs. H. N., Chillicothe, O.  
Rogers, C. J. Chicago, Ill. Ware, Mrs. Justin A., Spring Hill, Mass.  
Rogers, Mrs. Nellie Nye, Chicago, Ill. Warner, Mrs. Ellen Nye,  
Ruggles, Mrs. Mabel Drew, Springfield, Mass.  
Portsmouth, O. Wesson, James L., Boston, Mass.  
Ryder, Mrs. Phebe, Nye, Medford, Mass. Wesson, Mrs. James L., Boston, Mass.  
Ryder, Miss Mary Hoxie, Beverly, Mass. Wesson, Miss Isabel, Boston, Mass.  
Schoff, Robinson Nye, Marblehead, Mass. Wesson, Mrs. Sarah Nye,  
Smith, Mrs. Annie Nye, Sandwich, Mass.  
Littleton Common, Mass. Whitcomb, Helen C., Quincy, Ill.  
Smith, S. Curtis, Newton, Mass. Wing, Mrs. Abbie Bradford,  
Smith, Mrs. S. C., Newton, Mass. Newton, Mass.  
Smith, Franklin E., Newton, Mass. Wing, Mitchell, Newton, Mass.  
Smith, Mrs. Annie M. Nye, Wing, Paul, Sandwich, Mass.  
Newton, Mass. Wing, Dorothy, Sandwich, Mass.  
Smith, Clara Nye, Newton, Mass. Wing, Marion, Sandwich, Mass.  
Sears, Mrs. J. H., Melrose, Mass. Wood, Mrs. Susan Nye, Brockton, Mass.  
Silsby, S. E., Sandwich, Mass. Washburn, Mary, Plymouth, Mass.





THE TREASURER'S LIST  
OF  
MEMBERS OF THE NYE FAMILY ASSOCIATION.

1905-1906.

Abbott, Mrs. Lorena Nye, 5540 Prairie Ave., Chicago, Ill.  
Abbott, Mr. and Mrs. J. H., East Whitman, Mass.  
Adams, Mrs. Annie Nye, Norwood, Mass.  
Adams, Miss Leola Belle, Norwood, Mass.  
Allen, Mrs. Mary C., Monument Beach, Mass.  
Allyne, Miss Lucinda Nye, So. Framingham, Mass.  
Bamfield, Mrs. William, Kingston, Ontario.  
Barker, Mrs. Josie E., Natick, Mass.  
Bartlett, Mrs. Herschel, St. Joseph, Missouri.  
Bates, \*Mrs. Polly Nye, Westford, Vt.  
Belcher, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Alden, Randolph, Mass.  
Blake, Mrs. Eunice A., Abington, Mass.  
Brown, Mrs. Austin H., Chillicothe, Ohio.  
Brush, Mr. and Mrs. Emerson H., Elmhurst, Ill.  
Bourne, Ebenezer P., Marietta, Ohio.  
Buell, Mrs. Maria Nye, Marietta, Ohio.  
Churchill, Mrs. Louise Nye, Lexington Ave. and 89th St., N. Y. City.  
Chandler, Mrs. Alice M., East Bridgewater, Mass.  
Cook, Mrs. Rowena Nye, Chillicothe, Ohio.  
Cook, Miss Margaret Scott, Chillicothe, Ohio.  
Colton, Mrs. John E., Nashua, N. H.  
Cottle, Mrs. Martha J., West Tisbury, Mass.  
Crowell, Joshua, East Dennis, Mass.  
Crocker, Mr. and Mrs. Timothy, South Hyannis, Mass.  
Chipman, Mr. and Mrs. James, 20 Enfield St., Jamaica Plain, Mass.  
Cram, Mr. and Mrs. Henry B., 120 Avonhill St., Cambridge, Mass.  
Dale, Mrs. Sophia B. Dana, Montclair, N. J.  
Davis, Nathan S., 1124 St. Paul St., Rochester, N. Y.  
Dana, Chas. S., Marietta, Ohio.  
Dana, Mr. and Mrs. John, Belpre, Ohio.  
Dana, Lockwood Nye, Belpre, Ohio.  
Drew, Mr. and Mrs. Irving, Portsmouth, Ohio.  
Dyer, Mr. Arthur H., Boston, Mass.



Eastman, Mrs. P. C., Rock, Mass.  
Farnum, Mrs. Minnie Nye, 49 Ashland Ave., Buffalo, N. Y.  
Fesler, Mrs. Almira Nye, Middleport Ohio.  
Ford, William S., Melrose Highlands, Mass.  
Freeman, Mrs. Caroline S., Boston, Mass.  
Fletcher, Mrs. Esther Nye, Littleton Common, Mass.  
Gates, Mr. and Mrs. W. W., Portsmouth, Ohio.  
Gibbs, Mrs. Addie R., Cincinnati, Ohio.  
Gilbert, Francis, 44 Wall St., New York City.  
Gilliford, Dr. Jane Nye, Allegheny, Pa.  
Haines, Mrs. Sarah M., Sandwich, Mass.  
Henking, Mrs. Charles Le, 1117 5th Ave., Huntington, W. Va.  
Holway, Mrs. Helen Nye, East Sandwich, Mass.  
Holway, Mr. and Mrs. Jerome R., Sandwich, Mass.  
Knowles, Mrs. Thomas K., County St., New Bedford, Mass.  
La Rue, Miss Saphronia, Riverside, Cal.  
Little, Miss Johanna W., Newbury St., Boston, Mass.  
Lucas, Mrs. W. W., 292 E. 17th Ave., Columbus, Ohio.  
Lloyd, Mrs. James, Providence, R. I.  
McGirr, Mrs. Sarah M., Marietta, Ohio.  
McGirr, Miss Lucy E., Marietta, Ohio.  
McKay, Mrs. Frances, Marietta, Ohio.  
Melzard, Mr. and Mrs. George O., Newtonville, Mass.  
Nash, Mrs. Minerva Nye, Zanesville, Ohio.  
Nye, \*Mr. and Mrs. Nathaniel F., Auburndale, Mass.  
Nye, Mr. and \*Mrs. J. Edwin, Auburn, Me.  
Nye, George H., Auburn, N. Y.  
Nye, Miss Carol B., Auburn, N. Y.  
Nye, Miss Mollie A., Auburn, N. Y.  
Nye, Miss Agnes Jean, Auburn, N. Y.  
Nye, Miss Katherine, Auburn, N. Y.  
Nye, Miss Maud E., Auburn, N. Y.  
Nye, George H., Jr., Auburn, N. Y.  
Nye, Fred C., Attleboro, Mass.  
Nye, Loring Charles, Athens, Ohio.  
Nye, Dr. F. F., 643 Park St., Beloit, Wis.  
Nye, Miss Grace Weed, Beloit, Wis.  
Nye, Benjamin H., Carrollton, Wash.  
Nye, Mrs. Martha E., Chillicothe, Ohio.  
Nye, Joseph S., Chillicothe, Ohio.  
Nye, Miss Eudora, Chillicothe, Ohio.  
Nye, Miss Virginia S., Chillicothe, Ohio.  
Nye, Miss Ellen Ross, Champlain, N. Y.  
Nye, Harold B., Cleveland, Ohio.  
Nye, Miss Mary P., Columbus, Ohio.





Nye, M. M., Crawfordville, Ind.  
Nye, Frederick A., Chauncey, Ohio.  
Nye, George Harvey, Chauncey, Ohio.  
Nye, Don C., Chauncey, Ohio.  
Nye, Frederick G., Cambridge, Ohio.  
Nye, Kendrick D., Cambridge, Ohio.  
Nye, Stewart J., Cambridge, Ohio.  
Nye, George L., Equitable Building, Denver, Colo.  
Nye, Rev. Charles Lyman, 1018 Des Moines St., Des Moines, Ia.  
Nye, Miss Alberta Eaton, Codman Square, Dorchester, Mass.  
Nye, Mr. and Mrs. Augustus S., 49 Humphrey St., Dorchester, Mass.  
Nye, Rev. Elmer I., East Georgia, Vt.  
Nye, Hon. and Mrs. David J., Elyria, Ohio.  
Nye, David G., Elyria, Ohio.  
Nye, Horace H., Elyria, Ohio.  
Nye, Samuel H., East Sandwich, Mass.  
Nye, Mrs. Alfred, Fairhaven, Mass.  
Nye, Mrs. Horace K., Fairhaven, Mass.  
Nye, Alfert Frances, Fairhaven, Mass.  
Nye, Ray, Fremont, Neb.  
Nye, Hon. Stephen A., Fairfield, Me.  
Nye, Mr. and \*Mrs. Charles H., Hyannis, Mass.  
Nye, John G., Hartsgrove, Ohio.  
Nye, Robert E., Hartsgrove, Ohio.  
Nye, Benjamin F., Highgate, Vt.  
Nye, B. Emmett, Highgate, Vt.  
Nye, Hungerford, Ithaca, N. Y.  
Nye, Ralph Leslie, 25 Tower St., Jamaica Plain, Mass.  
Nye, J. Henry, Kenwood, N. Y.  
Nye, Miss A. A., Littleton Common, Mass.  
Nye, R. L. Los Angeles, Cal.  
Nye, Mr. and Mrs. William L., Lee, Mass.  
Nye, W. E., Moravia, N. Y.  
Nye, Miss Nellie M., 72 Congress St., Milford, Mass.  
Nye, Miss Calista P., Marietta, Ohio.  
Nye, Miss L. Virginia, Marietta, Ohio.  
Nye, Auselm Tupper, Marietta, Ohio.  
Nye, James W., Marietta, Ohio.  
Nye, Miss Mary C., Marietta, Ohio.  
Nye, Miss Katherine P., Marietta, Ohio.  
Nye, Miss Rebekah D., Marietta, Ohio.  
Nye, Miss Minerva Tupper, Marietta, Ohio.  
Nye, Wallace G., Minneapolis, Minn.  
Nye, Carroll A., Moorhead, Minn.  
Nye, William F., New Bedford, Mass.



- Nye, Frank W., New York City.  
Nye, S. Buell, Noroton Heights, Conn.  
Nye, Mrs. Helen A., North Falmouth, Mass.  
Nye, Edward M., Pomeroy, Ohio.  
Nye, George B., Pomeroy, Ohio.  
Nye, Frank J., Putnam, Ill.  
Nye, E. J., Paso Robles, Cal.  
Nye, Mrs. Caroline A., Roxbury, Mass.  
Nye, Miss Mary T., Roxbury, Mass.  
Nye, Gen. George H. and wife, The Dunbar, Roxbury, Mass.  
Nye, Mr. and Mrs. William L., Sandwich, Mass.  
Nye, Miss Abbie F., Sandwich, Mass.  
Nye, Mrs. Stephen B., Sandwich, Mass.  
Nye, Miss Mary E., Sandwich, Mass.  
Nye, Miss Emilie Paulina, St. Joseph, Mo.  
Nye, Mrs. Ebenezer B., Sagamore, Mass.  
Nye, Herbert B., 100 Revere St., Springfield, Mass.  
Nye, Miss Esther Mills, Utica, N. Y.  
Nye, Victor J., 123 Genesee St., Utica, N. Y.  
Nye, Dr. Fremont, Westerly, R. I.  
Nye, M. A., Wisner, Neb.  
Nye, Everett Irving, Wellfleet, Mass.  
Nye, Homes, Walpole, Mass.  
Nye, Levi R., West Stockholm, N. Y.  
Nye, Harry L., Zanesville, Ohio.  
Oldham, Robert, Seattle, Wash.  
Oldham, Mrs. F. F., Washington, D. C.  
O'Donnell, Mrs. Sarah J., Dorchester, Mass.  
Page, Mrs. Hannah Nye, Essex, Vt.  
Pattee, Mrs. J. H., Monmouth, Ill.  
Penfield, Mrs. M. A., Brunswick, Ga.  
Potts, Mrs. Mary F., Zanesville, Ohio.  
Poppenbarger-Simpson, Mrs. Livia, Nye, Pt. Pleasant, W. Va.  
Roberts, Mrs. Mary Nye, Indianapolis, Ind.  
Rupp, Mrs. Helen Nye, Monmouth, Ill.  
Ryder, Mrs. Phebe Nye, Medford, Mass.  
Stebbins, Mr. and Mrs. C. E., Chicopee, Mass.  
Stevens, I. Frank, Nashua, N. H.  
Stevenson, Mrs. Alice Nye, Pittsburg, Pa.  
Stone, Mrs. Rowena Nye, Belpre, Ohio.  
Sproat, Mrs. Martha Nye, Chillicothe, Ohio.  
Sproat, Miss Martha E., Chillicothe, Ohio.  
Smith, Mr. and Mrs. S. Curtis, 56 Fairmount Ave., Newton, Mass.  
Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Franklin E., 56 Fairmount Ave., Newton, Mass.  
Smith, Mrs. Annie Nye, 134 Walnut Ave., Roxbury, Mass.





Smith, \*James L., 134 Walnut Ave., Roxbury, Mass.  
Sturges, Harold, Elmhurst, Ill.  
Sturges, Mrs. Helen, Elmhurst, Ill.  
Sturges, William S., Arivaca, Arizona.  
Swift, Mrs. Clement N., Acushnet, Mass.  
Soule, Mrs. M. T., 42 Forrest St., Meddleboro, Mass.  
Saigent, Mrs. C. W., 78 Warren Ave., Brockton, Mass.  
Towne, Mrs. H. N., Chillicothe, Ohio.  
Taber, Mrs. Laura, Fairhaven, Mass.  
Thompson, Robert W., Middletown, Conn.  
Titus, Mrs. Margaretta Nye, Middleport, Ohio.  
Towne, Robert S., 82 Beaver St., New York City.  
Usher, Mrs. Betsey Nye, Fremont, Neb.  
Wesson, Mr. and Mrs. James, Boston, Mass  
Wesson, Miss Isabel, Boston, Mass.  
White, Mrs. Frank G., 1565 Lafayette Ave., Denver, Colorado.  
Wing, Mrs. Mitchell, Newton, Mass.  
Webster, Mrs. John R., Monmouth, Ill.

\*Deceased.





# THE NYE FAMILY OF AMERICA

FIFTH and SIXTH REUNIONS  
SANDWICH, Mass. and HIGHGATE, Vt.  
1908 and 1909



THE  
Nye Family of America  
Association

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIFTH AND SIXTH REUNIONS

AT SANDWICH, MASS.

AUGUST FIFTH - SIXTH - SEVENTH - 1908

AT HIGHGATE, VT.

AUGUST FOURTH - FIFTH - SIXTH - 1909

---

HYANNIS, MASS.:

F. B. & F. P. GOSS, PUBLISHERS AND PRINTERS.

*The Patriot Press.*

1909.





4 plates

MRS. JEROME R. HOLWAY

and

MRS. H. A. BELCHER

Committee on Publication



# OFFICERS

OF THE

## NYE FAMILY OF AMERICA

### ASSOCIATION

#### 1907 - 1908

---

#### *President*

HON. DAVID J. NYE, Elyria, Ohio.

#### *Vice-President*

MR. JAMES L. WESSON, Boston, Mass.

#### *Secretary and Treasurer*

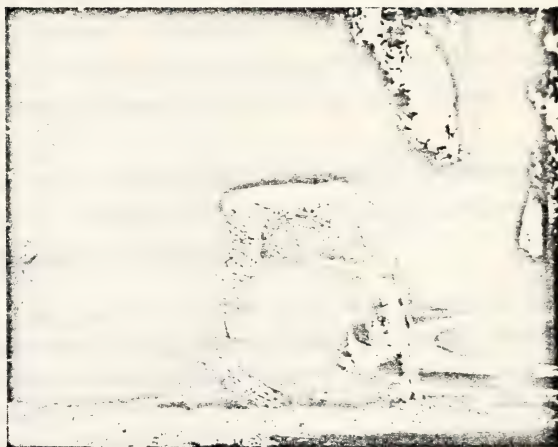
MRS. ANNIE NYE SMITH, Littleton Common, Mass.

#### *Executive Committee*

WILLIAM L. NYE (Chairman)	.	.	Sandwich, Mass.
J. EDWIN NYE	.	.	Auburn, Me.
WILLIAM F. NYE	.	.	Fairhaven, Mass.
MRS. HENRY A. BELCHER	.	.	Randolph, Mass.
JAMES W. NYE	.	.	Marietta, Ohio.
EVERETT I. NYE	.	.	Wellfleet, Mass.
GEORGE H. NYE	.	.	Auburn, N. Y.
MRS. JEROME R. HOLWAY	.	.	Sandwich, Mass.
MISS ABBIE F. NYE	.	.	Sandwich, Mass.
REV. ELMER I. NYE	.	.	East Georgia, Vt.







NYE BOULDER



## PROCEEDINGS.

---

The meetings were held in the First Parish church where all of the first settlers of the town worshipped. The first meeting, Aug. 5th, 1908, was called to order by the Vice President of the Association, Mr. James L. Wesson of Boston, at 3.30 p. m.

The exercises were opened by an organ prelude by Miss Frances Hope Kerr; this was followed by prayer by Rev. Elmer I. Nye of Georgia, Vt.

A hymn was sung, after which the President introduced Mr. William L. Nye of Sandwich, Chairman of the Executive Committee, who welcomed the Family as follows:

Once more you have responded to the call to return to the home of your ancestors. Once more to greet old friends who have before gathered around the hearthstones of the fathers, and give the kindly greeting to those who for the first time tread the pathway of those whose memory they come to commemorate.

For the fourth time we meet within the wall of this old parish church. On this site was builded the church of the early settlers.

For the fourth time the pleasant task has been assigned me to give you the kindly greeting, and extend to you the glad hand of welcome. Although our numbers may not be as large as on former occasions, the greeting is none the less cordial. Although the family may not all be present, yet we know they are with us in spirit, and wish they were here.

This occasion to me is like the home coming of the children to the Father's house, after a long separation.

A family reunion. There is much connected with it of joy and



gladness, as well as sadness. The meeting of old friends; the exchange of kindly greetings; the hearty handshake; the reminiscences of the past. These fill our hearts with gladness.

The feeling of sadness steals over us, for today we miss many who in the past have been with us at these gatherings. They whom we had learned to love and cherish. They who labored faithfully and earnestly to further the best interests of the Nye Family of America Association.

They have laid down their armor, knowing life's work was well done.

Friends, it remains for you if you are interested in the welfare of the association to take up the burden and labor they have laid down, and see to it that the association is placed on a firm and solid foundation.

Five years have passed since a handful of Nyes met and organized the Nye Family of America.

Since that time much has been accomplished. We have come in contact with a large number of the very large family of Nyes. There are today nearly 1,500 names on the mailing list. Each year the secretary communicates with a large part of these by circular. Through the efforts of a committee appointed by the association the genealogy of the Nye family has been published, and is today in possession of many of the family, a work well done and appreciated by all.

But a nobler and grander task has been accomplished. Today in a lovely spot in this old town, under the shady elms, stands a memorial to the memory of our first parents, Benjamin and Katharine, that will prove lasting as time.

And if in the years to come for lack of interest should the Nye Family of America association become a relic of the past, this memorial will ever remain to remind the pilgrim along the way that this is the place where the family of which today we are proud to acknowledge originated.

I would that you might appreciate the time and labor in bringing about this result. Too much praise cannot be given the chairman of the memorial committee for the final success of this undertaking.

The years will pass away, the tribe will increase and spread.





The grim old boulder will remain the same, unchanging as the everlasting hills.

Friends, on occasions like the present, we are not contented to live in the today. We cannot prevent our thoughts wandering back to the olden times. In fancy we see the years that intervened, passing the mind's eye, in one grand panoramic view.

When we walk through the shaded streets; when we climb the green hillside, or stroll along the sandy pebbled shore, we find ourselves contrasting these with the days of yore.

In the place of the wide, well travelled road, we see the narrow path winding through the clearing and the forests, and in imagination the old scenes return to our view.

The humble church looks small and mean, when contrasted with the fine edifices of today. The little schoolhouse, weather beaten and unpainted, is but a toy building in comparison with the places of learning today. Yet the memory of both are sweet, and we would ever cherish a sacred love for them.

Two hundred and eighty-eight years ago Benjamin and Katharine erected a home by the little stream that in the future would furnish power for Benjamin Nye's fulling mill built upon its bank. And from that home have originated nearly all if not all the Nyes in this country; 288 years ago the family tree was planted in this country. That tree has grown and spread until its branches reach to every state in the Union and far beyond. As the family grew and increased, Nye homes sprang up all over this town. Here was the home of John, Benjamin, Jonathan, Caleb, Peleg, and many others. The family was large. Today the fathers are sleeping in the silent city, and their descendants are scattered far and wide. Today, the place where the name of Nye was so frequent, only three males of that name remain.

The tree planted by the little stream grew and flourished, and I think you will agree with me when I say the harvest was good.

Friends, to this, the fifth reunion of the Nye family, I welcome you. You will find much that will interest you during your tarry here. You will visit the home of Benjamin and Katharine. You will want to see the farm house nestled down behind the hills, the home of Jonathan, and where Benjamin Nye, 1st, spent his last days. You will be shown the homes of many others and some



one who may have been your ancestor. From these old homes have gone out into the world men and women of solid worth. You will find them in every avocation, on the farm, as mechanics, merchants, professors. Many have gone down to the sea in ships, and made for themselves a name for courage and bravery that their posterity should cherish. Read their records in the Revolutionary war and others, and you will find they were ever ready when duty called.

May this, the fifth reunion, prove an interesting one to you. This is the home of the Nye, and our latch string is out to any of the family who may knock at our doors. When the time comes that we must part, may you take away with you pleasant recollections of this occasion, and tell to your friends, and they to their friends, that the only thing needed is a membership in the Nye Family Association of America. I welcome you to the town, to these exercises, but most of all to our homes.

The first Business of the meeting was the appointing by the chair of a Nominating committee to make choice of officers for the ensuing year as follows: Henry A. Belcher, Chairman, Randolph, Mass.; J. Edwin Nye, Auburn, Me.; Everett I. Nye, Wellfleet, Mass.; Rev. Elmer I. Nye, Georgia, Vt.; Herschel Bartlett, St. Joseph, Mo. After greetings, registration, and distributing of programs, the meeting adjourned until evening.

The evening session was largely attended. After an organ prelude by Miss Kerr, fine music was rendered by the choir of the church under the direction of Mr. John Chipman. Following this a committee was appointed on Memorials by the chair, as follows: Miss Abbie F. Nye, Sandwich; Hon. William A. Nye, Bourne; Mrs. Orrie Nye Abbott, Chicago, Ill.

An address of welcome was then given by the Vice President of the association, Mr. James L. Wesson of Boston, as follows:

*Members of the Nye Family Association:*

Unfortunately our president is not with us. Advice was received from him yesterday stating his inability to be present,





and expressing his regrets. I am sure that no one regrets his absence more than I do as it would have been a pleasure to listen to such an address as he would surely have given us. You all heard the words of welcome from Mr. Nye this afternoon to all of which I am heartily in accord and wish you one and all a pleasant and instructive time.

This was followed by an address by Mr. William F. Nye of Fairhaven, our venerable kinsman, to whose interest in the affairs of the association, much of its success is due:

*My Many Dear Cousins and Friends:*

It is with sincere pleasure that I again meet you at this earliest home of the family Nye. Their first abiding place from which we date our being upon this rolling orb, and glad indeed that we again today make it the gathering place of the Nye family of America—though but few it may be in numbers compared with the long record we have of membership whose hands at this eventful hour we are happy to grasp, yet the indissoluble kindred tie is felt for the absent, and re-echoed by the winds and waves of old ocean that sweep across this dear old town of Sandwich. Dear, may I say? Yes, very dear to me, as my birthright and early boyhood home, where we oft chased the roebuck and the hound over the long stretch of those grand old wooded hills encircled by the towns of Barnstable, Falmouth and Sandwich. I love them still, and so well that from time to time it has been my pleasure to buy up more than 1,000 acres of them that afford me satisfaction to feel that I can call them my own as I tramp over them. Though living apart and often distant, I ever love to come back to my dear old Cape Cod home and roll backward my scroll of 85 years, and to mingle these years with boyhood memories.

Dear old Sandwich, I say again, planted as we may well believe, like old Plymouth by far seeing fate upon the shoulder of the outstretched arm of Massachusetts, that first rescued and embraced the Pilgrims after their perilous voyage across the sea—to sustain the lofty ideals they brought with them, and so true has our grand old town in unison with Barnstable and Plymouth ever maintained their ideals that New England has since stood as the



bulwark of liberty and freedom. And as the gateway of that star of empire that so proudly wended its way westward—would that the thousands that today bear our unique name (spelt in so many ways by transposition of six letters of the alphabet) might have been inspired to come to this early home of their ancestors, who for conscience sake and the joys of dear life crossed the sea to carve out new homes where despotic greed could but feebly reach them. Just think of ourselves here today amid all the plenty, the luxury and grandeur of our time, being placed amid their surroundings of near 300 years ago—struggling amid an over-population and pinioned by superstition and greed of priest and despot—hard indeed would it be for us to pick up ourselves and belongings to cross the wide ocean, even though we were promised the most elysian country late discoveries have revealed to us, and a floating palace to convey us thither—but few would assent to muster the Roosevelt courage to delve the wilds of a dark Africa. We may well believe that these early comers to these rough, rock-ribbed shores were prototypes of brawn and brain, the outgrowth of which have made the wilds of this broad land re-echo from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and now bridging that wider ocean with leviathan steamships and magnetic wires that convey our every thought to the isles of the far east. We may pleasantly question ourselves today, What might they say, could they return and see the land dotted with magnificent cities and lofty structures linking earth and sky? Speaking from my own heart, I verily believe they do know it all, and will have joyful tales to tell us when we join them in that still broader land that stretches away beyond the range of our vision. For us, dear friends, they pioneered—they led the way and invite us to follow—let us not get weary by the way, lest we forget our worthy sires, and well it is that today we step aside to plant a memorial on the identical spot where Benjamin Nye and Katharine Tupper plighted their vows while the birds of their forest home chirped their glad notes in unison with invisible friends that ever joy when two hearts are made one.

Now a word as to the Nyes, as they have evolved through the various stages of our country's progress, their individualism if you please, since Benjamin and Katharine and Father Tupper



emerged from the borders of medieval culture to the present scholastic and modernisms of our day. I have heretofore said in one of my sketches of the Nye tribe—they are a class fully emancipated and free from any mortgage to a paternal rule wherever we find them—though widely scattered, you find them first the man and gracious companion of man, and then as ideal citizens ever loyal to humanity, government and law.

The Nyes, as a tribe, are ever hopeful and ever cheerful, with minds inducive in persuasion and argument, often acting without hesitation for what he wants and even turning things upside down in seeking of his purpose, or even from a social order of things, if it is the lady he loves, and strange though the paradox, this might be termed extremely egotistical and immoral, while really it is enlightened self-respect and culminates in patriotism and a superb individualism that renders efficient, active and happy with its best conception of human destiny, which surely tends to complete development of manhood and womanhood—the apex of America's highest virtues, and, my friends, these characteristics so well apply to the people of Cape Cod generally, that I just here wish to express my veneration for the large number that within my memory have dared the distant seas, and all the more perhaps that my honored father traversed the ocean for more than 50 years of his life, and my elder brother several times circumnavigated the globe, until the rigid Arctic sea held him and his hardy crew in its cruel grasp to their death. The world may well give recognition to the hardy fishermen and sailors of Cape Cod for the discoveries their voyages have inspired and aided in the conquest of trade and commerce. They have carried civilization to savage places and made it possible for the untutored isles of the sea to climb the ladder of humanity, and no other section of earth has done more to put the thrill of life into the dormant conditions of the sluggish past than have the sturdy, daring, sea-going men of Cape Cod. In my youthful days I pictured her as the empire that ruled the sea, inasmuch as in early times she supplied the cod to the country at large in vast quantities, until it became the emblem of the glory of Massachusetts, as is evidenced by the model that adorns our state Capitol. I ever love to journey down the Cape, for the murmur of the ocean and





the life-giving breezes supply the glow of youth and make life sweet and golden. How many sturdy young men throughout its length have I known, who having taken their initial voyage on a fisherman to the Grand Banks of Newfoundland, to soon graduate upon a square rigger and become an officer or skipper of an East India merchantman. Very many of these sons of the Cape did I meet during my few years' stay in India some sixty years since, where my opportunities were excellent for witnessing the dealings with the native baboos and circas through whom it was necessary to negotiate cargoes for their ships. These Hindoo and China merchants had become thoroughly distrustful of the English in their accounting for consignments made by them to European ports, that when our Boston and Salem skippers brought back to them full and honest returns, they were more than surprised and quite overpowered. In one instance, I well remember when Captain Hallett brought back to Calcutta the full invoice price for a consignment a Baboo had submitted to him—they lavished upon him their highest approval and admiration. Of all missionary efforts extended to the benighted Hindoo, these square deals of the sons of Cape Cod awoke in them the consciousness of truth more than all else, until America, the Stars and Stripes and our great Washington, has been their adoration since—and especially that America had repulsed England in her conflict against the colonies—and another incident that often amused me and that I was pleased to correct with these people, was their impression that our great Webster, the defender of the Constitution, was the author of the dictionary. Please bear in mind this was their condition sixty years ago. They have made much advancement since.

And my friends, I derive the utmost satisfaction in reading up the reported movements of the age by contrasting the past with the present—the fiction and unbridled liberty of the past are rapidly fading before the marvelous commercial, industrial and educational developments of this republic. Some future historian will yet dare to contrast the morale between Britain's piratical grasp of the Indies and South Africa in the eighteenth century and the declaration of freedom made to the Hawaiian and Philippine Isles and to Cuba in recent years by this republic of ours



which has been borne to them by Perry, Dewey and McKinley in fraternal offering beneath the starry emblem that proclaims life, liberty and equality for all.

May I once again turn backward and let youthful memory gather from its storehouse. Vividly do I recall the day when a lad of 14, attending the centennial celebration with my grandfather at Barnstable in 1839, and listening to an oration by Edward Everett, then the governor of Massachusetts, and there seeing quite an array of distinguished citizens of the Cape at that time, some of whom I came in business contact with in after life, among whom were the Honorable Zeno Scudder, Lawyer John Reed, Nymphas Marston, Judge of Probate, James Otis, William Lewis, S. B. Phinney, editor of the Barnstable Patriot, and Charles Francis Swift, editor of the Yarmouth Register. He was a schoolmate of mine, and well do I remember the day when he left school and went an apprentice boy to learn type-setting in the Register office. He rapidly reached the editorial chair, which is ably and efficiently filled today by his son. There was one remark made by the governor which fixed itself upon my mind. Paying his tribute to Cape Cod he pleasantly alluded to his better-half that he found there. It was the first time I had heard that appellation applied, and of course it set my boyish ideas at work to solve how a man's wife could be the best half of him, but not so great many years after I solved the beautiful truth. Some of the quaint and witty after dinner toasts then given on that occasion have never escaped me. Here are some of them: "Our Clam Banks, Sand Banks, and Grand Banks, the only banks that have stood a run of 200 years and redeemed all their drafts in the same solid specie." Another, "Clams, quabogs and codfish to our friends, the shells and scales to our enemies." "Cape Cod. When our Pilgrim Fathers wrote out the records of liberty upon the one end, the other furnished the sand that kept them from blotting." "Cape Cod industry, Cape Cod frugality, Cape Cod prosperity and Cape Cod forever."

To be sure my youthful vision was not as broad and world wide as I have been enabled to extend it since, and is very pardonable in a boy that the centre of the world is bounded by his immediate acquaintance.





And now, my dear friends, if in my love and veneration for Cape Cod I have boxed the compass of her encircling arm, it may be from the fact that she has borne a good crop of Nyes and that the world is better that they have lived, doing their part in sustaining the great moral force of the people as the avenging power that rights all wrongs.

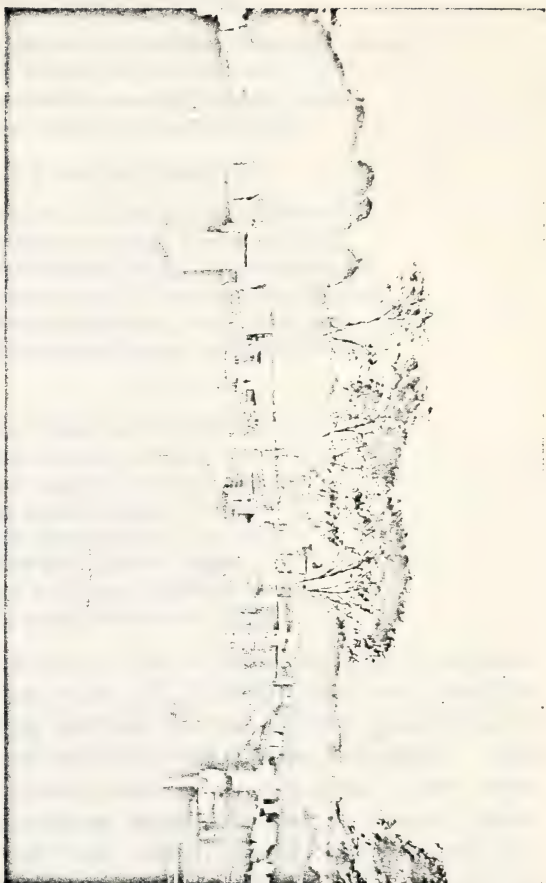
The choir again favored the audience with music, after which a most valuable and interesting paper was given by Mrs. Jerome R. Holway of Sandwich, on *Where Some of the Early Settlers of the Nye Family are Buried*:

In the record of a regular town meeting held in Sandwich, the sixth day of July, 1663, we find the following: It was ordered, that the little neck of land that lies by William Newland's house, shall be appropriated as a burial place for the town, and that 3£, 7 s. and 4 d., be paid from the town's money, now in the hands of James Skiff, without any more trouble. So we suppose that the land was paid for and taken for this purpose, but the oldest stone we have found after a careful search is that of "Thomas Clark, son of Thomas and Jane Clark, aged 7 weeks, July 24, 1683, the 3rd son of Thomas and Jane Clark," and this was twenty years after the above action of the town. Perhaps the Indian troubles at this time induced people to bury their dead upon their own farms, for in 1676, when Edmond Freeman's wife Elizabeth died, he had her buried on his land not far from his house. Over her grave he had a round stone placed to represent the pillion upon which she had sat, and requested his children that when he should die, a stone resembling a saddle should be placed upon his grave. This was done in 1682 and to this day his descendants visit this spot.

The next oldest stone is the footstone of Thomas Burgess, marked T. B. He was one of the first settlers and died Feb. 13, 1685, but his headstone is gone; beside his footstone is one marked D. B. for Dorothy, his wife, the headstone is broken off so that only the date is plain, Feb. 27, 1687.

In this locality lie Ezra Perry, 1689, and his wife Elizabeth





OLD CEMETERY IN SANDWICH



Burgess, 1717. Near by is the stone of Thomas Tupper, 1706, brother to our Katharine. Here are the graves of Stephen Skiffe, 1710, whose name as Justice of the Peace, appears upon all our early deeds, and Lydia his wife, 1713. Near by is a marble shaft raised to the memory of Frances Robert Nye, aged 5 months, and whose inscription runs thus :

As the sweet flower that scents the morn,  
But withers in the rising day,  
Thus lovely was my Frances' dawn  
Thus swiftly fled her life away.

More touching still is a near by inscription :

Brothers and sisters see my stone  
And see how short I staid with you  
Death spared me not but cut me down  
And soon you'll have the summons too,  
Then seek the Lord while he is near  
And come and sleep with Reuben here.

and yet another,

Dear Ellen hast thy spirit fled  
To God that gave thee birth,  
And must thy clayey tenement  
Lie mouldering in the dust.  
Yes, thou art gone dear babe  
I saw thee take thy flight,  
And with eyes of faith can see  
Thy souls in realms of light.

The next reference that we find in the records about the cemetery is in 1716, when "Rev. Mr. Roland Cotton was voted the privilege of pasturing his horse in the burying ground, he to fence it in joining each end of the fence to the mill pond." This must have been a difficult task and he only lived a few years. We find a tablestone with no tablet near that of Joanna Cotton, who died in 1702, and Ruth Cotton, the 6th daughter and 10th child of Rev. Roland Cotton and Elizabeth his wife, who died in 1716. Near by is the grave of Shearjashub Bourne, 1718, whose inscription reads "He was a virtuous, righteous and merciful man and a great friend to the Indians," and of his wife Bathshua, 1714.





To write the history of this cemetery, is to write the early history of the town, for here lie the ministers of the First Parish church, Rev. Benj. Fessenden, who came after Rev. Cotton, then Rev. Abraham Williams, who served the church from 1749 till his death in 1781, here lie justices of the peace, Stephen Skiffe, Joseph Nye, Esq., Silas Bourne, Melatiah Bourne and many others, Dr. Eldad Tupper, Dr. Nathaniel Freeman, who was "the father of 20 children, 14 of whom survived him," Deacon Timothy Bourne, 1744, whose inscription reads, after mentioning his long service of 30 years as deacon, "He was a strict observer of his word and long professed the Christian religion. He was free and sociable with his friends and died greatly lamented.

Adieu my friends and kindred dear  
 For silent dust conceals me here  
 But when the mighty trump shall sound  
 To call the nations from the ground,  
 I'll then reanimate my clay  
 And wing my way  
 To join the great celestial day."

Deacon Cornelius Tobey, who lived to be 93 years old, and his son, Deacon Cornelius, Town Clerk Samuel Jennings, who held that office for over 20 years, and whose good penmanship is still a restful sight to the tired eyes of ancestor hunters. Grammar school teacher John Rogers, who taught here for 36 years, who was educated and took the degree of Master of Arts at the University of Glasgow; his grand-daughter, Anna Wing, married Capt. John Nye. We find many who won distinction in military affairs, Lieutenant Benjamin Freeman, whose wife Patience was a grand-daughter to Jonathan Nye and Patience Burgess; her inscription reads:

Remember me as you pass by  
 For as you are so once was I  
 And as I am so you must be  
 Therefore prepare to follow me.

Joseph Nye, Esq., Stephen Nye, Col. Obed Nye, Silas Bourne, who was captain of the town for many years and had charge of the arms and ammunition which were stored in the old brick



powder house which stood for perhaps a century and a half in this cemetery not many rods from the north entrance. Here we find the tablestone in memory of Titus Winchester, who gave the first clock to this church; he a slave, was left heir to his master's property, and at his death gave it for a clock and a sum of money to the church. We find on the south slope of the hill, a plain stone which has this upon it—"Here lyeth ye body of Capt. Peter Adolph of New Yorke aged 48 years, who dyed by shipwrack in this bay, ye 16th of March 1702-3 and was washed shoar 3 miles below this towne." The widow of this man was so grateful to the people of Sandwich for rescuing the body of her husband and giving it a christian burial, that she ordered a bell properly inscribed for the tower of this church. This bell was given to the county for its court house when a larger one was needed for the church and when it was no longer needed there, it was given a place of honor in one of the rooms. We hope that when we shall have a fireproof historical room, it will be returned to its home in this town. Now we notice an inscription on the stone of a young child—"She like a dew drop sparkled, was exhaled and went to Heaven." More startling perhaps are the words which we find under the name of Elisha Bourne,

"My Maker spoke, I did obey  
And quickly came upon the stage  
My Maker took my life away  
While I was in my youthful age  
But be content with heavenly might  
And sing this song, 'Whatever is, is right.'"

We find the stone of Rev. Jonathan Burr, who was the pastor of the church at the time the church was divided, he going with the majority and forming a new church, now the Congregational. He was a fine scholar and was the founder and teacher of the Sandwich Academy whose first building was the Lake House of today. This parson Burr was a fifer in the Revolution and was a familiar figure about these streets with his fife for many years after the war.

We find no further reference at this time to the cemetery in the town records but we find in an old file of the Sandwich Advocate of 1852 that a wall had been built which the writer

The first of these is the fact that the majority of the population of the United States is now living in urban areas. This is a result of the process of urbanization, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century.

The second of these is the fact that the majority of the population of the United States is now living in the South and West. This is a result of the process of migration, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century.

The third of these is the fact that the majority of the population of the United States is now living in the middle class. This is a result of the process of social mobility, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century.

The fourth of these is the fact that the majority of the population of the United States is now living in the industrial sector. This is a result of the process of industrialization, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century.

The fifth of these is the fact that the majority of the population of the United States is now living in the service sector. This is a result of the process of deindustrialization, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century.

The sixth of these is the fact that the majority of the population of the United States is now living in the knowledge sector. This is a result of the process of knowledge-based economy, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century.

The seventh of these is the fact that the majority of the population of the United States is now living in the information sector. This is a result of the process of information-based economy, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century.

The eighth of these is the fact that the majority of the population of the United States is now living in the communication sector. This is a result of the process of communication-based economy, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century.

The ninth of these is the fact that the majority of the population of the United States is now living in the entertainment sector. This is a result of the process of entertainment-based economy, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century.

The tenth of these is the fact that the majority of the population of the United States is now living in the health sector. This is a result of the process of health-based economy, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century.

The eleventh of these is the fact that the majority of the population of the United States is now living in the education sector. This is a result of the process of education-based economy, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century.

The twelfth of these is the fact that the majority of the population of the United States is now living in the environment sector. This is a result of the process of environment-based economy, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century.

The thirteenth of these is the fact that the majority of the population of the United States is now living in the energy sector. This is a result of the process of energy-based economy, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century.

The fourteenth of these is the fact that the majority of the population of the United States is now living in the transportation sector. This is a result of the process of transportation-based economy, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century.

The fifteenth of these is the fact that the majority of the population of the United States is now living in the infrastructure sector. This is a result of the process of infrastructure-based economy, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century.

The sixteenth of these is the fact that the majority of the population of the United States is now living in the public sector. This is a result of the process of public-based economy, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century.

The seventeenth of these is the fact that the majority of the population of the United States is now living in the private sector. This is a result of the process of private-based economy, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century.

The eighteenth of these is the fact that the majority of the population of the United States is now living in the non-profit sector. This is a result of the process of non-profit-based economy, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century.

The nineteenth of these is the fact that the majority of the population of the United States is now living in the voluntary sector. This is a result of the process of voluntary-based economy, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century.

The twentieth of these is the fact that the majority of the population of the United States is now living in the social sector. This is a result of the process of social-based economy, which has been going on since the beginning of the nineteenth century.



compared to a fortress but called attention to the lack of gates to close the entrances and to the neglect everywhere apparent in the cemetery. We know that the wall was built by private contributions as were the iron gates which were purchased a few years later. Trees and briers grew undisturbed within this enclosure for many years. The wall, which is still standing, was planned and its construction superintended by Mr. David Percival, whose son David is a Boston business man. The curve is said to be a wonderful piece of masonry. We have been told by old residents that the cap stones to the gate posts were made by an ex-convict from State Prison, who was wandering about the country and came to this town. In 1884 the town passed a vote to replace the old iron gates with new wooden ones and paid Mr. Joseph Hall \$75 to place these present ones in place.

Here we note another quaint epitaph,

Ye that survive me, look hereon,  
Say to my praise that here lies one,  
Gave joy and comfort, while she'd breath  
Great consolation at her death.

We find it said of a prominent citizen, He was a firm Republican, and died greatly lamented. Near by is the stone of Timothy, a young son of Dr. Benjamin Bourne and his wife Hannah, and upon it are these comforting words :

What stroke is this, alas tis Death  
Comes with a summons for my breath.  
Death strikes my doom, my glass is run,  
My parents left without a son,  
But stop, tis right, don't shed a tear  
For God conducts this sad affair.

Yet another,

See here, I leave my name behind  
Forgetful mortals to remind  
That once I lived.

A pathetic tribute to a servant girl, "She was a faithful domestic for 12 years and though of sable hue, we trust she may shine in the Kingdom of Heaven." A husband places after his wife's name and death these words :

When such friends part  
Tis the survivor dies.



Public sentiment finally became aroused in regard to the terrible neglect of this burial spot, and Mr. Ezra Pope began pasturing his sheep there, to try and kill the dense undergrowth. Only about 25 years ago the town needed some locust posts and 200 good-sized ones were taken from this cemetery. Work went on at times, clearing it up slowly and finally Mr. Charles Pope, who was bell ringer in this church for many years, took hold of the problem, he wrote to non-residents who had ancestors buried here and raised about \$60, while Mr. Benjamin Denison, another prominent citizen, raised \$90 about town, and the latter gentleman took charge of the clearing up and putting in order.

The town at last awoke to its duty and now each year appropriates a sum of money for its care.

The Sandwich Historical Society was incorporated in July of 1907, and I may say in passing that a member of this Nye family, and one to whom it owes much, Mr. George H. Nye of Auburn, N. Y., said to the writer when parting at the station at the last Re-union, Sandwich ought to have a Historical Society, you owe it to future generations to collect and preserve its historical matter, and so it has lived a year and now has over 50 members. One of its first works has been to have a plan of this cemetery made by Mr. C. M. Thompson, and your writer has taken the names and inscriptions from the stones; they will be placed upon a chart and so numbered that strangers coming here will be able to find the graves easily for which they might search for hours and then go away disappointed. We have found 600 names and dates and leave but one stone in the yard unread and that we feel sure is of Capt. Prince Tobey, as his wife is upon one side and his widow upon the other, but the entire surface above ground has scaled off, but beneath the earth we found "of his age" so we think it is his, without a doubt. We quote one more epitaph to close:

The eye that hath seen me, shall see me no more  
Thine eyes are upon me, and I am not,  
Circles are praised not that abound  
In largeness, but exactly round.  
So lives are praised not that excel  
In length of time, but living well.

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that this is essential for ensuring transparency and accountability in the organization's operations.

2. The second part outlines the various methods and tools used to collect and analyze data. It mentions the use of surveys, interviews, and focus groups to gather information from stakeholders. Additionally, it discusses the application of statistical analysis to interpret the collected data.

3. The third part describes the process of identifying key trends and patterns in the data. It highlights the need for a systematic approach to data analysis, involving the identification of relevant variables and the use of appropriate statistical techniques.

4. The fourth part focuses on the communication of findings to the relevant stakeholders. It stresses the importance of presenting the results in a clear and concise manner, using visual aids such as charts and graphs to enhance understanding.

5. The fifth part discusses the implications of the findings for the organization's strategy and operations. It suggests that the results should be used to inform decision-making and to identify areas for improvement.

6. The sixth part concludes the document by summarizing the key points and reiterating the importance of ongoing data collection and analysis. It encourages the organization to maintain a commitment to transparency and accountability in its operations.

We have taken those names that we know to be Nyes or descendants of Nyes, and they will be printed below this paper in the Proceedings of this Re-union :

Mrs. Mary Nye, wife of Zenas Nye, died June 25, 1839, aged 78.

Mr. Stephen Nye, died July 6, 1810, aged 90 years, 1 month.

Mary F., daughter of Zenas and Mary Nye, died May 25, 1829, aged 29.

Mrs. Maria Nye, wife of Stephen Nye, died Aug. 29, 1814, 88th year.

Zenas Nye, died Oct. 12, 1828, aged 65.

In memory of son Shadrack died at Jamaica, Jan. 2, 1805, 17 years, 6 months.

Stephen, died at Isle of May, Jan. 8, 1805, aged 19 years, 6 months.

Zenas Nye 3rd, died on passage from Valparaiso, Sept. 20, 1824, aged 25.

Mr. Heman Nye, Jr., died Oct. 24, 1798, in his 22d year.

Russell Fish, son of Silas and Keziah (Nye) Fish, died Sept. 11, 1801, 17 months.

Temperance Hall (daughter of Joseph Nye) wife of Joshua Hall, died Nov. 27, 1803, aged 76.

Nathan Nye, Esq., died May 7, 1826, aged 76 years.

Mrs. Hannah Nye, wife of Nathan Nye, Jr., died June 16, 1795, 41st year.

Mrs. Lucy Nye, wife of Elisha Nye, died Sept. 27, 1775, 29th year.

Mr. Ebenezer Nye, Aug. 30, 1748, 61st year.

Mr. Silas Nye, Sept. 10, 1793, 68th year.

Elizabeth Nye, wife of Silas Nye, Aug. 12, 1785, 59th year.

Mr. John Nye, Nov. 6, 1722, 79th year.

Mrs. Esther Nye, June 1726, 76th year.

James Nye, son of Peter and Olive Nye, July 12, 1776, aged 4 months, 2 days.

Mrs. Olive Nye, wife of Peter Nye, June 16, 1776, 26th year.

Hannah Nye, daughter of John and Hannah, May 27, 1758, aged 1 year, 16 days.

Thomas Nye, May 29, 1802, 42d year.





Mrs. Bathsheba Nye, wife of Capt. Thomas Nye, Feb. 21, 1817, aged 54.

Thomas S. Nye, born July 6, 1784, died June 2, 1851.

Deborah Nye, wife of Thomas, born Sept. 19, 1794, died December 28, 1861.

Capt. William Nye, died Jan. 2, 1835, aged 69.

Betsy D. Nye, wife of Thomas S. Nye, died July 4, 1821, aged 44 years.

Mr. Joseph Nye, son of Jonathan, died March 21, 1749, aged 55 years.

Mrs. Lydia Nye, wife of Sylvanus Nye, died Nov. 16, 1774, aged 22.

Mrs. Sarah Freeman, wife of Benj. Freeman, died January 22, 1790, 54th year.

Mrs. Patience Freeman, wife of Lieut. Benj. Freeman, died August 18, 1767, 75th year.

Mrs. Remember Dillingham, daughter of John Nye, wife of Edward Dillingham, died May 9, 1750, 33d year.

Mrs. Lydia Nye, wife of Benjamin Nye, died November 21, 1730, aged 21 years.

Hannah Nye, daughter of Nathaniel and Elizabeth Nye, died June 15, 1874, 2 years, 1 day.

Mrs. Sarah D. Nye, wife of Lemuel B. Nye, died February 23, 1832, aged 22 years.

Polly Nye, daughter of Levi and Patience Nye, died June 21—20th month.

Elisha Bourne, son of Benjamin and Hannah Bourne, November 10, 1814, aged 21 years.

Sally Bourne, daughter of Dr. Benjamin and Hannah Bourne, August 13, 1796, 22 years.

Hannah Agry, consort to Capt. Thomas Agry, died November 19, 1792, 27th year.

Joseph Nye, died May 6, 1856, aged 82 years.

Robert, son of Joseph Nye Esq., and Mrs. Catherine, died May 1, 1793, 15 months.

Miss Patty Nye, daughter of Joseph Nye and Catherine, died June 20, 1794.

Joseph Nye, Esq., died May 7, 1796, aged 56 years.

1. The first part of the paper discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and the role of the auditor in this regard. It highlights the need for transparency and accountability in financial reporting.

2. The second part of the paper examines the various methods used to collect and analyze data, including interviews, surveys, and document analysis. It emphasizes the importance of using a mix of methods to ensure the reliability and validity of the findings.

3. The third part of the paper presents the results of the study, which show that there is a significant correlation between the quality of financial reporting and the level of trust in the organization. It also identifies several factors that influence the quality of financial reporting, such as the size of the organization and the complexity of its operations.

4. The fourth part of the paper discusses the implications of the findings for practice and policy. It suggests that organizations should invest in training and development programs to improve the skills and knowledge of their financial reporting staff. It also recommends that regulators should strengthen their oversight and enforcement of financial reporting standards.

5. The fifth part of the paper concludes by summarizing the main findings and highlighting the need for further research in this area. It suggests that future studies should focus on the role of technology in financial reporting and the impact of globalization on financial reporting practices.

Joseph Bodfish, son of Sarah Nye, died Nov. 16, 1800, 75th year.

Capt. James L. Nye killed by a whale, Dec. 29, 1852, 33 years.

Nancy Nye, daughter of Abram and Nancy Nye, died May 24, 1825, 3 years, 5 months.

Susan W., daughter of Abram and Susan W. Nye, died Sept. 20, 1849, aged 2 years, 9 months.

Abram Nye, died Aug. 5, 1857, aged 64 years, 5 months.

Nancy Tobey Nye, died May 5th, 1831, aged 31 years, 5 mos.

Susan Ware Nye, died Jan. 11, 1872, aged 71 years.

Seth Freeman Nye, son of Abram and Nancy Nye, died Sept. 1858, aged 27 years, 6 months.

Timothy Bourne, son of Dr. Benjamin and Hannah Bourne, died June 7th, 1788, 3rd year.

Mr. Joseph Nye, died June 24th, 1775, aged 81 years.

Mrs. Mehitable Nye, wife of Joseph Nye, died Dec. 11, 1750, in 60th year.

Mehitable Nye, daughter of Joseph Nye, Esq., and Mrs. Catherine, died Aug. 29, 1769, aged 17 months, 8 days.

Mehitable Nye, daughter of Joseph Nye, Esq., and Catherine, died Dec. 29, 1770, aged 13 months.

Experience Dillingham, daughter of Edward and Abigail Dillingham, died Dec. 30, 1761, 54th year.

Col. Obed B. Nye, died Aug. 17, 1864, aged 90 years.

Abigail Tobey Nye, died Sept. 10, 1868, aged 85 years.

Hannah, daughter of Obed and Abigail Nye, died Oct. 16, 1844, aged 28 years.

George Washington, son of Obed and Abigail Nye.

Frances Roberts Nye, daughter of Capt. Nathan and Sarah Nye, died October 27th, 1725, aged 5 months.

Capt. Thomas Nye, died April 9th, 1788.

Mrs. Thankful Nye, widow Capt. Thomas Nye.

Mrs. Patience Nye, wife of Mr. Levi Nye, died September 14th, 1800, aged 26 years.

Elizabeth, widow of Rev. Levi Nye, died May 22d, 1847, aged 64 years.

Rev. Levi Nye, died July 9th, 1834, aged 61 years.





Martha Nye, daughter of Charles and Patty Nye, died January 3d, 1817.

Elizabeth B., daughter of Charles and Patty Nye, died July, 1811, aged 17 years, 9 months.

Elizabeth Bassett Nye, daughter of Charles and Patty Nye, died August 18th, 1821, aged 4 years, 6 months.

Temperance, daughter of Dr. Benjamin and Mrs. Hannah Bourne, died October 29th, 1776, 5th year.

Mrs. Hannah Hatch, daughter of John and Sarah (Nye) Bodfish.

Mrs. Sarah Bodfish, died October 8th, 1763, 82d year.

Mrs. John Nye, Oct. 25th, 1805, 85th year.

Mrs. Hannah Nye, December 19th, 1777, 56th year.

Hannah, daughter of John and Hannah Nye, died May 27th, 1758, 1 year, 16 days.

Capt. Charles Nye, 1790-1881.

Mrs. Patty Bourne Bassett Nye, 1796-1865.

Silas Nye, son to Caleb and Hannah Nye, died Jan. 24, 1735-6, 4th year.

Mrs. Mercy Nye, wife to Nathan Nye, died Oct. 8, 1728, aged 55 years.

After another chorus, Mrs. H. A. Belcher moved that a vote of thanks be given to the singers for the delightful music which they have given us this evening, which was unanimously carried.

This concluded the first day's program.

On August 6, at 9.30 a. m., the church was again well filled by the Family.

At the request of the President Mr. W. L. Nye of Sandwich presided.

An Organ Prelude by Miss Kerr opened the exercises, after which a hymn was sung by the audience.

The business of the association was then taken up. The report of the Secretary was read and approved. The Treasurer reported as follows:



On hand Aug. 1, 1907,	\$87 01
Received for dues,	61 00
	<hr/>
	\$148 01
Expenses for year,	33 45
	<hr/>
Balance on hand Aug. 1, 1908,	\$114 56

Mrs. Smith called attention to the fact that as no Re-union was held in 1907, the receipts were much less than usual. Report accepted.

The Report of the Nye Memorial Committee was then given by the Chairman, Mrs. H. A. Belcher :

*Mr. President and Members of the Nye Family of America :*

As chairman of the Memorial Committee I have the honor to submit the following report :

At the third annual meeting of the family held at Marietta, Ohio, in 1905, it was voted that a memorial stone be erected at Sandwich, Massachusetts, to the memory of our ancestors, Benjamin Nye and Katharine Tupper his wife. A committee of three, with full power, was appointed to take the matter in charge and to raise funds and erect the same.

Our ancestors were among the first settlers of the Plymouth colony, and a large family of their descendants are now scattered the length and breadth of this broad and prosperous country, to them circulars were sent, asking for contributions toward this memorial. The response from the circulars was not large, so letter writing was resorted to, which brought a little better result. Through many discouragements your committee did not lose heart, but pressed on with the work. Through the kindness of Mr. William F. Nye of Fairhaven it was made possible for us to erect the memorial and to dedicate it free of any debt, as he presented the tablet and wreath, which cost him \$175.

The committee, and I trust every member of our family, extend to him our appreciation and thanks for the generous gift. The thanks of the family are also due to the one hundred and twenty-



one people who have contributed toward the memorial, and to Mr. Hartford, a descendant of Benjamin Nye, who presented to us the boulder.

The right to place our memorial on its site was granted to us, for all time, by the town of Sandwich, through a committee appointed for that purpose at the Town Meeting in March, 1907. The only proviso the town made, upon giving us the use of the lot of land was, that the association should always care for it. I am disappointed that I cannot report a balance on hand of \$100, as with that small sum placed as an endowment fund with the town, the lot would have perpetual care, should the association cease to exist, and I hope that before this meeting adjourns that the sum of \$71 will be raised to add to the amount held by the memorial committee for that purpose.

I also recommend that the association make provision for the care of the lot each year.

Respectfully submitted,

MRS. HENRY A. BELCHER, Randolph, Mass., Chairman.

HON. DAVID J. NYE, Elyria, Ohio.

MRS. HORACE K. NYE, Fairhaven, Mass.

Mrs. Holway moved that a vote of thanks be given Mrs. Belcher, chairman of this committee, which was given unanimously.

The report of the Publishing Committee of the Nye Genealogy was then given by one of the committee, Mr. H. A. Belcher:

At a meeting held here two years ago a guarantee committee was raised, consisting of ten people, who agreed to stand the expense of publishing the book and it was left in the hands of Hon. David J. Nye, our President, to go ahead and publish the book. His son, a year ago this summer, took up the work and labored hard and you have seen the result of his work in the published book. It was certainly quite an undertaking for a young man and must have taken a great deal of time and attention to do the work he has done. There are some 300 copies and there are





40 copies which were engaged but have not been taken. To publish the book, Judge Nye and his son David borrowed \$500 from the Savings Bank in Elyria, Ohio. They have since paid \$50 on that sum, leaving \$450 still due to the Savings Bank, and they have on hand books, which if sold at the price put upon them, would yield \$800. Of course this Association is in no way responsible financially. The only thing that can be done by the Association is for those who have not yet acquired the book, to buy one and help the guarantee close out by doing so.

It was moved and seconded that a vote of thanks be given to David Nye for his work in the genealogy of the family.

The report of the nominating committee by the chairman, Mr. Belcher, followed :

President, Hon. David J. Nye, Elyria, Ohio.

Vice President, James L. Wesson, Boston, Mass.

Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. Annie Nye Smith, Littleton Common, Mass.

Registrar, Robert W. Thompson, Middletown, Conn.

#### Executive Committee.

William L. Nye, Chairman, . . . Sandwich, Mass.

J. Edwin Nye . . . . . Auburn, Me.

Wm. F. Nye . . . . . Fairhaven, Mass.

Mrs. Henry A. Belcher . . . . . Randolph, Mass.

James W. Nye . . . . . Marietta, Ohio.

Everett I. Nye . . . . . Wellfleet, Mass.

George H. Nye . . . . . Auburn, N. Y.

Mrs. Jerome R. Holway . . . . . Sandwich, Mass.

Miss Abbie F. Nye . . . . . Sandwich, Mass.

Rev. Elmer I. Nye . . . . . East Georgia, Vt.

Mrs. Belcher moved that this report be accepted and that the Secretary cast one ballot for the officers as nominated. Motion was carried and the officers declared elected.

Everett I. Nye moved that the Executive Committee have power to fill all vacancies. Motion was carried.

The first of these is the fact that the majority of the cases of influenza are reported from the United States and Europe. This is probably due to the fact that these countries have the most extensive systems of reporting and the most complete records. It is also possible that the disease is more prevalent in these countries than in others.

The second fact is that the majority of the cases of influenza are reported from the winter months. This is probably due to the fact that the disease is more prevalent during the winter months than during the summer months. It is also possible that the disease is more prevalent in the winter months because of the colder weather and the increased indoor activity.

The third fact is that the majority of the cases of influenza are reported from the young and the old. This is probably due to the fact that these groups are more susceptible to the disease than the middle-aged group. It is also possible that the disease is more prevalent in these groups because of their weaker immune systems.

The fourth fact is that the majority of the cases of influenza are reported from the cities. This is probably due to the fact that the disease is more prevalent in the cities than in the rural areas. It is also possible that the disease is more prevalent in the cities because of the closer contact between people and the more crowded conditions.

Mr. Belcher moved that a telegram be sent to Hon. David J. Nye, announcing to him the fact that he has been re-elected President of this association and that there be added to that a message of sympathy and congratulations to his family. Motion was carried.

MEMORIAL OF CHARLES H. NYE BY HON. WILLIAM A. NYE OF  
BOURNE.

Mr. Chas. H. Nye was probably the best known man in the county of Barnstable, born in North Falmouth about the year 1812. The early part of his life was spent in Falmouth and that part of Sandwich adjacent to the town. He was a young man employed at the iron works and when the railroad was built from Middleboro to Sandwich, Mr. Nye was one of the most active of its builders. After the road was built and in operation in Hyannis, he went there and entered its employ in the year 1857. He was first employed as a clerk in the office and was later a conductor. He continued in the employ of the railroad until the year 1891. He represented the town of Sandwich in the Legislature in the years of 1856 and 1857, and in the years 1892 and 1893 he represented the town of Barnstable. The idea of forming an association I think originated with him. Certainly he gave it a great deal of time and thought and he felt that with his advanced years he was unable to undertake the task, but he talked with every member of the family that he met and urged upon them the necessity, especially the younger ones, of forming this association. He finally succeeded as you all know. And in view of these services your committee has prepared these resolutions:

Whereas, The Nye Family of America is gathered in annual convention and Whereas since our last meeting we have lost through death, our earthly fellowship with our well-beloved Brother, the late Charles H. Nye:

Resolved, That the Nye Family of America hereby testifies formally to its sense of bereavement and to its love and admiration of the noble spirit that has passed from our midst.

Resolved, That Charles H. Nye, now gathered to his Maker in

the first of these is the fact that the system is not self-sufficient. It is dependent on the outside world for many of its needs, and this is a serious weakness. The second is that the system is not flexible. It is rigid and inflexible, and this is a serious weakness. The third is that the system is not efficient. It is wasteful and inefficient, and this is a serious weakness.

It is clear that the system is not self-sufficient, not flexible, and not efficient. These are serious weaknesses, and they must be corrected if the system is to be successful.

The first of these weaknesses is the fact that the system is not self-sufficient. It is dependent on the outside world for many of its needs, and this is a serious weakness. The second is that the system is not flexible. It is rigid and inflexible, and this is a serious weakness. The third is that the system is not efficient. It is wasteful and inefficient, and this is a serious weakness.

The first of these weaknesses is the fact that the system is not self-sufficient. It is dependent on the outside world for many of its needs, and this is a serious weakness. The second is that the system is not flexible. It is rigid and inflexible, and this is a serious weakness. The third is that the system is not efficient. It is wasteful and inefficient, and this is a serious weakness.

The first of these weaknesses is the fact that the system is not self-sufficient. It is dependent on the outside world for many of its needs, and this is a serious weakness. The second is that the system is not flexible. It is rigid and inflexible, and this is a serious weakness. The third is that the system is not efficient. It is wasteful and inefficient, and this is a serious weakness.

The first of these weaknesses is the fact that the system is not self-sufficient. It is dependent on the outside world for many of its needs, and this is a serious weakness. The second is that the system is not flexible. It is rigid and inflexible, and this is a serious weakness. The third is that the system is not efficient. It is wasteful and inefficient, and this is a serious weakness.

The first of these weaknesses is the fact that the system is not self-sufficient. It is dependent on the outside world for many of its needs, and this is a serious weakness. The second is that the system is not flexible. It is rigid and inflexible, and this is a serious weakness. The third is that the system is not efficient. It is wasteful and inefficient, and this is a serious weakness.

The first of these weaknesses is the fact that the system is not self-sufficient. It is dependent on the outside world for many of its needs, and this is a serious weakness. The second is that the system is not flexible. It is rigid and inflexible, and this is a serious weakness. The third is that the system is not efficient. It is wasteful and inefficient, and this is a serious weakness.



the fulness of years, was throughout his life conspicuous as a forceful and loyal citizen, faithful and true in all the relationships of human brotherhood. For fifty years past he took a foremost part in the advancement, social, moral and religious of the community in which he lived.

We revere his memory not merely because to him was due the conception from which our organization was born, but because the standards of his life and conduct were such as to reflect credit on the ancestral stock which he and we treasured as a heritage in common.

To the Kindred nearest and dearest to him we, his brethren in blood, send our condolences on his death, our congratulations on his life.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be forwarded to the immediate family of the deceased, and further

Resolved, That the foregoing be spread upon our official records.

Miss Abbie F. Nye read a memorial of Mrs. S. Curtis Smith:

On January 6th of this year, Mrs. S. Curtis Smith, after a brief illness, was called to rest from earthly toil, and the Association of the Nye Family of America mourns the loss of one of its earliest and most valued members, its beloved secretary.

Born and educated in Sandwich, Mrs. Smith early became a teacher, and her marked qualifications for the work won her immediate and pronounced success in her chosen profession.

Soon after her marriage in 1874, Newton, Mass. became her home. Deeply interested in all social and patriotic questions of the day, Mrs. Smith joined several of the clubs and societies of the city, in which her good judgment and conspicuous business ability found ready recognition.

For some years she was secretary of the Newton Social Science Club, and during the Cuban war was chairman of the Newton Committee that worked in aid of the soldiers, while at the time of her death she was vice-president of the Newton Federation of Women's Clubs.

Intensely patriotic, she joined the Sarah Hull Chapter of the Daughters of the Revolution, and served as Vice-Regent both of

The first of these was the establishment of the  
city of Boston in 1630. The second was the  
establishment of the city of New York in 1624.  
The third was the establishment of the city of  
Philadelphia in 1682. The fourth was the  
establishment of the city of London in 1666.  
The fifth was the establishment of the city of  
Paris in 1661. The sixth was the  
establishment of the city of Rome in 1644.  
The seventh was the establishment of the city of  
Vienna in 1683. The eighth was the  
establishment of the city of Constantinople in 1667.  
The ninth was the establishment of the city of  
Istanbul in 1660. The tenth was the  
establishment of the city of Moscow in 1648.  
The eleventh was the establishment of the city of  
St. Petersburg in 1703. The twelfth was the  
establishment of the city of Berlin in 1640.  
The thirteenth was the establishment of the city of  
Vienna in 1683. The fourteenth was the  
establishment of the city of Rome in 1644.  
The fifteenth was the establishment of the city of  
Paris in 1661. The sixteenth was the  
establishment of the city of London in 1666.  
The seventeenth was the establishment of the city of  
Philadelphia in 1682. The eighteenth was the  
establishment of the city of New York in 1624.  
The nineteenth was the establishment of the city of  
Boston in 1630. The twentieth was the  
establishment of the city of St. Petersburg in 1703.  
The twenty-first was the establishment of the city of  
Moscow in 1648. The twenty-second was the  
establishment of the city of Constantinople in 1667.  
The twenty-third was the establishment of the city of  
Istanbul in 1660. The twenty-fourth was the  
establishment of the city of Vienna in 1683.  
The twenty-fifth was the establishment of the city of  
Berlin in 1640. The twenty-sixth was the  
establishment of the city of Rome in 1644.  
The twenty-seventh was the establishment of the city of  
Paris in 1661. The twenty-eighth was the  
establishment of the city of London in 1666.  
The twenty-ninth was the establishment of the city of  
Philadelphia in 1682. The thirtieth was the  
establishment of the city of New York in 1624.  
The thirty-first was the establishment of the city of  
Boston in 1630. The thirty-second was the  
establishment of the city of St. Petersburg in 1703.  
The thirty-third was the establishment of the city of  
Moscow in 1648. The thirty-fourth was the  
establishment of the city of Constantinople in 1667.  
The thirty-fifth was the establishment of the city of  
Istanbul in 1660. The thirty-sixth was the  
establishment of the city of Vienna in 1683.  
The thirty-seventh was the establishment of the city of  
Berlin in 1640. The thirty-eighth was the  
establishment of the city of Rome in 1644.  
The thirty-ninth was the establishment of the city of  
Paris in 1661. The fortieth was the  
establishment of the city of London in 1666.  
The forty-first was the establishment of the city of  
Philadelphia in 1682. The forty-second was the  
establishment of the city of New York in 1624.  
The forty-third was the establishment of the city of  
Boston in 1630. The forty-fourth was the  
establishment of the city of St. Petersburg in 1703.  
The forty-fifth was the establishment of the city of  
Moscow in 1648. The forty-sixth was the  
establishment of the city of Constantinople in 1667.  
The forty-seventh was the establishment of the city of  
Istanbul in 1660. The forty-eighth was the  
establishment of the city of Vienna in 1683.  
The forty-ninth was the establishment of the city of  
Berlin in 1640. The fiftieth was the  
establishment of the city of Rome in 1644.  
The fifty-first was the establishment of the city of  
Paris in 1661. The fifty-second was the  
establishment of the city of London in 1666.  
The fifty-third was the establishment of the city of  
Philadelphia in 1682. The fifty-fourth was the  
establishment of the city of New York in 1624.  
The fifty-fifth was the establishment of the city of  
Boston in 1630. The fifty-sixth was the  
establishment of the city of St. Petersburg in 1703.  
The fifty-seventh was the establishment of the city of  
Moscow in 1648. The fifty-eighth was the  
establishment of the city of Constantinople in 1667.  
The fifty-ninth was the establishment of the city of  
Istanbul in 1660. The sixtieth was the  
establishment of the city of Vienna in 1683.  
The sixty-first was the establishment of the city of  
Berlin in 1640. The sixty-second was the  
establishment of the city of Rome in 1644.  
The sixty-third was the establishment of the city of  
Paris in 1661. The sixty-fourth was the  
establishment of the city of London in 1666.  
The sixty-fifth was the establishment of the city of  
Philadelphia in 1682. The sixty-sixth was the  
establishment of the city of New York in 1624.  
The sixty-seventh was the establishment of the city of  
Boston in 1630. The sixty-eighth was the  
establishment of the city of St. Petersburg in 1703.  
The sixty-ninth was the establishment of the city of  
Moscow in 1648. The seventieth was the  
establishment of the city of Constantinople in 1667.  
The seventy-first was the establishment of the city of  
Istanbul in 1660. The seventy-second was the  
establishment of the city of Vienna in 1683.  
The seventy-third was the establishment of the city of  
Berlin in 1640. The seventy-fourth was the  
establishment of the city of Rome in 1644.  
The seventy-fifth was the establishment of the city of  
Paris in 1661. The seventy-sixth was the  
establishment of the city of London in 1666.  
The seventy-seventh was the establishment of the city of  
Philadelphia in 1682. The seventy-eighth was the  
establishment of the city of New York in 1624.  
The seventy-ninth was the establishment of the city of  
Boston in 1630. The eightieth was the  
establishment of the city of St. Petersburg in 1703.  
The eighty-first was the establishment of the city of  
Moscow in 1648. The eighty-second was the  
establishment of the city of Constantinople in 1667.  
The eighty-third was the establishment of the city of  
Istanbul in 1660. The eighty-fourth was the  
establishment of the city of Vienna in 1683.  
The eighty-fifth was the establishment of the city of  
Berlin in 1640. The eighty-sixth was the  
establishment of the city of Rome in 1644.  
The eighty-seventh was the establishment of the city of  
Paris in 1661. The eighty-eighth was the  
establishment of the city of London in 1666.  
The eighty-ninth was the establishment of the city of  
Philadelphia in 1682. The ninetieth was the  
establishment of the city of New York in 1624.  
The hundredth was the establishment of the city of  
Boston in 1630.

the chapter and of the state organization. These facts prove the wide range of her sympathies and her ready zeal in all worthy causes, spending and being spent with total disregard of self.

From its earliest inception her efforts in behalf of the Nye Association have been untiring. Chosen secretary in 1904, to succeed Mrs. Henry A. Belcher, she brought to the work the knowledge and experience gained in previous years, and a devotion to the interests of the Association that have contributed much to its successful growth. All that pertained to the history and the honor of our ancient line lay near her heart, and none have surpassed her in love and hearty good-will to the sons and daughters of the Nye Family of America.

A kind neighbor, a sincere friend, has left us; her outstretched hand and welcoming smile are ours no more, but the memory of the generous spirit that spoke through them, and the fragrance of her earnest Christian life, will long abide. We feel her loss, but not even the tenderest hand may touch upon its significance to the broken home-circle, whose very centre of light and inspiration has been so suddenly taken away; upon their grief we may not intrude.

To her sorrowing husband and children the Nye Association expresses its deep appreciation of her loyal service in its behalf, and its profound sympathy in their sad bereavement. To them shall come "The peace that floweth as a river," for "Blessed are they that mourn."

Miss Nye also read the following as chairman of Committee on Memorials:

Again at its Fifth Re-union the Nye Family of America chronicles the loss of some of its most valued members, and extends its heartfelt sympathy to the families thus sadly bereft.

To Miss Ellen Rose Nye, Locust Hill, Champlain, N. Y., who mourns for her mother, Mrs. Bartlett Nye, present with us at our first re-union; and also for her brother, Charles Freeman Nye, who was a graduate of Harvard University, also of the Columbia Law School, and who was a young man of great promise.

To Mr. Levi Nye of Sandwich, Mass., who has suffered the loss of a beloved wife.

The first of these is the fact that the  
the second is the fact that the  
the third is the fact that the  
the fourth is the fact that the  
the fifth is the fact that the  
the sixth is the fact that the  
the seventh is the fact that the  
the eighth is the fact that the  
the ninth is the fact that the  
the tenth is the fact that the  
the eleventh is the fact that the  
the twelfth is the fact that the  
the thirteenth is the fact that the  
the fourteenth is the fact that the  
the fifteenth is the fact that the  
the sixteenth is the fact that the  
the seventeenth is the fact that the  
the eighteenth is the fact that the  
the nineteenth is the fact that the  
the twentieth is the fact that the  
the twenty-first is the fact that the  
the twenty-second is the fact that the  
the twenty-third is the fact that the  
the twenty-fourth is the fact that the  
the twenty-fifth is the fact that the  
the twenty-sixth is the fact that the  
the twenty-seventh is the fact that the  
the twenty-eighth is the fact that the  
the twenty-ninth is the fact that the  
the thirtieth is the fact that the  
the thirty-first is the fact that the  
the thirty-second is the fact that the  
the thirty-third is the fact that the  
the thirty-fourth is the fact that the  
the thirty-fifth is the fact that the  
the thirty-sixth is the fact that the  
the thirty-seventh is the fact that the  
the thirty-eighth is the fact that the  
the thirty-ninth is the fact that the  
the fortieth is the fact that the  
the forty-first is the fact that the  
the forty-second is the fact that the  
the forty-third is the fact that the  
the forty-fourth is the fact that the  
the forty-fifth is the fact that the  
the forty-sixth is the fact that the  
the forty-seventh is the fact that the  
the forty-eighth is the fact that the  
the forty-ninth is the fact that the  
the fiftieth is the fact that the  
the fifty-first is the fact that the  
the fifty-second is the fact that the  
the fifty-third is the fact that the  
the fifty-fourth is the fact that the  
the fifty-fifth is the fact that the  
the fifty-sixth is the fact that the  
the fifty-seventh is the fact that the  
the fifty-eighth is the fact that the  
the fifty-ninth is the fact that the  
the sixtieth is the fact that the  
the sixty-first is the fact that the  
the sixty-second is the fact that the  
the sixty-third is the fact that the  
the sixty-fourth is the fact that the  
the sixty-fifth is the fact that the  
the sixty-sixth is the fact that the  
the sixty-seventh is the fact that the  
the sixty-eighth is the fact that the  
the sixty-ninth is the fact that the  
the seventieth is the fact that the  
the seventy-first is the fact that the  
the seventy-second is the fact that the  
the seventy-third is the fact that the  
the seventy-fourth is the fact that the  
the seventy-fifth is the fact that the  
the seventy-sixth is the fact that the  
the seventy-seventh is the fact that the  
the seventy-eighth is the fact that the  
the seventy-ninth is the fact that the  
the eightieth is the fact that the  
the eighty-first is the fact that the  
the eighty-second is the fact that the  
the eighty-third is the fact that the  
the eighty-fourth is the fact that the  
the eighty-fifth is the fact that the  
the eighty-sixth is the fact that the  
the eighty-seventh is the fact that the  
the eighty-eighth is the fact that the  
the eighty-ninth is the fact that the  
the ninetieth is the fact that the  
the ninety-first is the fact that the  
the ninety-second is the fact that the  
the ninety-third is the fact that the  
the ninety-fourth is the fact that the  
the ninety-fifth is the fact that the  
the ninety-sixth is the fact that the  
the ninety-seventh is the fact that the  
the ninety-eighth is the fact that the  
the ninety-ninth is the fact that the  
the hundredth is the fact that the

To Mr. Southworth H. Nye, Dennis, Mass., and to his brothers and sister, members of our association, who have been called upon to part with their aged mother, Mrs. Tabitha Nye, of Sandwich, Mass.

To Mrs. Emerson H. Brush of Elmhurst, Ill., who laments the death of her husband, one of our earliest members.

To the widow and family of Mr. Harold B. Nye of Cleveland, Ohio, who have lost a devoted husband and father.

To Mr. W. W. Gates of Portsmouth, Ohio, in the loss of a much loved son.

To Mr. S. Curtis Smith and Mr. Franklin E. Smith of Newton, in the loss of a devoted wife and mother, our loyal Secretary of the association.

To Mr. Benj. F. Nye of Highgate, Vt., for an aged father, Mr. Nelson Nye, and a loyal friend of the association.

To Mr. Ralph L. Nye and Miss Alberta Eaton Nye, who mourn the loss of a dear mother, Mrs. Deborah R. Eaton Nye, and an aunt, Mrs. Cynthia Nye Smily.

To these sorrowing friends and relatives of the Nye Family, the earnest wish is expressed that our loving Father in Heaven, "Who doeth all things well," may give them abundant consolation.

It was moved and seconded that the report of the committee be accepted, the resolutions adopted and a copy sent to the families of deceased members. Motion carried. Telegrams were read by the Secretary from Judge Nye accepting the position of President, and greetings from Miss S. Alice La Rue of Riverside, Cal.

Timothy Nye of Attleboro sent a Reward of Merit of the long ago, which was placed on exhibition.

The President said, the association is also indebted to Mr. Nathan B. Hartford of Watertown, Mass., for his generous gift of that little pebble up on the green. It is considered by every one to be the finest shaped boulder in the world.

Mrs. Holway moved that a vote of thanks be given Mr. Hartford. Carried.





A song by Augustus Sears Nye, Dorchester, Mass., was finely rendered.

This was followed by an address by Rev. William H. Rider, D. D., Gloucester, Mass.

*Mr. President, Officers and Members of the Association:—*

I have presumed to speak with you a little upon some significances of the day. For, I am reminded by that illustrious William Nye, who in his day contributed so much to the real humor of his country, that it is far better to exchange good will and fellowship with the living than it is to remember their deeds with monuments. He said, you remember, passing some cemetery, that he could put up with a second-class tablet if he only had a few good things while he was alive.

This day what is your purpose, ladies and gentlemen, who are so proud to trace your line of descent back to those stalwart people, who in the troublesome times of our republic, gave of their best life and in a very real way shaped so much of the life that is in you and in me? What is your purpose in it all? Is it just to follow the custom that has unfortunately increased so rapidly in these latter years?

To-morrow I shall spend a little while where the mounds are thick. That little enclosure reaches with more significance than the highest altar in any church under God's sky. There I confess before the ashes of my dead. There annually I go to take an account as in the presence of the most high God and realize how awful is the place. It is no other than the house of God. I have great need of that one day in the future to keep me alive to the best and to give me courage for the days that are to come. Not that I am pessimistic; not that I hesitate; not that the life is not soon to be his; not that there is no color in the sky and no power in the world, but because above all these things and to the sons of women, I still must hold content with the dead to be loyal to the living. It is the secret of our republic's great advance, because we had men and women like Benjamin Nye and Katharine Tupper. We have put this broad land of ours in the forefront of all the world and only on the inherited characteristics of such men and

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes the need for transparency and accountability in financial reporting.

2. The second part of the document outlines the various methods and techniques used to collect and analyze data. It includes a detailed description of the experimental procedures and the statistical analysis performed.

3. The third part of the document presents the results of the study. It includes a series of tables and graphs that illustrate the findings of the research. The data shows a clear trend of increasing activity over time.

4. The fourth part of the document discusses the implications of the findings. It suggests that the results of the study have significant implications for the field of research and may lead to further developments in the future.

5. The fifth part of the document concludes the study. It summarizes the main findings and provides a final statement on the importance of the research.

women as Benjamin Nye and Katharine Tupper, can we hold this land of ours; can we hold our proud citizenship.

What power had the men who came and settled here on the sea-swept shores of our country? Only the indomitable energy of their superior will; only the splendid future of their loyal womanhood; only those God-given traits, which after all are the richest inheritance which we possess and for which we ought to thank the good God for the advice of our fathers and mothers. Believe me I am still old-fashioned enough to feel that only as we hold fast to the inheritance which our fathers and mothers have bequeathed to us, only by such loyal and patriotic purpose, shall we push forward into still greater success this wonderful land of ours. I do not know that one ought to be always speaking of his ancestors, but I do think we ought always to be thinking of them.

This is the day for reconsecration and you ought to thank the good Father that you have so much to be grateful for, so much to be really proud of. I will not presume, at least here, to analyze the characteristics of those to whose memory we are to-day to dedicate the boulder. Better than I or you know of. I know of it only from my mother and yet I know this, that there is little wonder that some of them dared to come here on this sandy, dear, old Cape. It is people of such courage who came here and it would seem that they had little need of any more sand. They lived the life of men and women, a life not dependent upon environment.

I would like a part of every good thing that is going. I do not know that I would exchange my horse for an automobile. I could not just now because he has taken me about 250 miles into the green hills of Vermont and we have had a delightful time, he and I, all the way. We have shared everything together. We have got into a little difficulty, have had some differences of views, but I do not know that I would care to exchange. I would like a part of all the flowers, part of all the beauty that is around me.

These men and women counted in shillings and in pence the value of their estate, but how they towered in the largeness of human life. How they attract us by the splendid stability of their character; their words were bonds, their deeds were to be counted for, and once in a while it disturbs me, when in simple





meditation of those men and women who gave their word and went their way, someone questions the simple statement which we give to them. Even this morning I was pleased and disturbed a little when one of the friends said to me, "We hardly knew whether you would come or not" and I had said I would come. How could I as a descendant of Benjamin Nye, or, as a descendant of those sturdy men, who laid the foundations of our great country and gave to us the characteristics of their services, how could I not have come when I said I would? Just simple downright truth. These pledges of good will. These were the characteristics of our forefathers; of the men and women whom we honor.

In order to be with you this afternoon, I left Vermont yesterday afternoon as the storm came on. I came down from a farm two miles on the hill, where lives, it seems to me, one, a true son of a godly father. The other boys went East or West or North or South as their inclination took them. The father had expressed a desire to make that farm one of the finest in all Orange County and to do something with the little stream which came trickling down the hillside. He died, as we use the term, ere it was accomplished. Often when looking out the west windows across the hilly meadows, he would say to his son, "I would have lived until I could have accomplished that." The son replied, "I will do it for you my father," and all thought wiped out of ever having some public position in life, this college bred boy took the old plow, worn by the hand of his father, and carried on the work. At night when the chores are over and he sits by the table with his friends, he can see the result of his work. The electric light enables him to read and he has made a great many other improvements and I doff my hat to that type of a man who will take up the work of his father in any direction and carry it on. Oh, you say the opportunity of it. Let us go down into the fertile land of Texas and raise onions. Let us do that. What have we here on Cape Cod? If I was to make a confession, ladies and gentlemen, of a great mistake in my life, that confession would be that under God I resolutely wish that I had remained here on the sands of this dear old Cape and followed the land of my sires. What have we done here on the Cape? We began to look about and do

The history of the world is a vast and complex subject, encompassing the lives and actions of countless individuals and the events that have shaped our planet. From the dawn of civilization to the present day, the human story is one of constant change and evolution. The study of history allows us to understand the patterns of human behavior, the forces that drive societal change, and the lessons that can be learned from the past. It is a discipline that seeks to uncover the truth about our world and our place within it. The history of the world is not just a collection of facts and dates, but a narrative that connects the past to the present and the future. It is a story that is constantly being rewritten as new discoveries are made and new perspectives are gained. The history of the world is a testament to the resilience and ingenuity of the human spirit, and it is a source of inspiration and guidance for all who seek to understand our world and our place within it.

some of the things which our fathers were compelled to do. At a banquet given one day in June, one of the men in the party remarked, on lifting up the grass, "how rich and fine this is. Where did this grass grow and where did you get it?" Someone replied, "I believe we get the best of it down on Cape Cod."

You ought to be proud that you are descendants of Benjamin Nye and Katharine Tupper. This is one of the reasons why I ask you to look upon that boulder, as the warrior looks on the high altar, gazes and goes away, all to the betterment of his own life. Well, you may say that we are bound to preach, we cannot help it and we must do it. This is no preaching, it is just a little talk from one of the representatives of the Nyes, coming to talk with you and say what it means to him. I am pleased with this day and am glad to be here. This does not lessen pleasure one mite, it spurs one on to active courage; it gives him something to do to toil as they toiled and find the secret of life in it.

There are times when I think of my inheritance and think what I ought to be and think that under God, somewhere, not here perhaps, but somewhere, I shall be as true as my forefathers and that somewhere I shall be tall and clean like the sweet womanhood of Katharine Tupper and the worthy manhood of Benjamin Nye. So I am proud with you to-day and after all feel as tall as the tallest of you.

After this came brief addresses.

MR. WARREN C. NYE of Barre, Vt.

*Mr. Chairman, Officers and Members of the Association:—*

I can really say that this is a red letter day in my life. It is a day that I have longed to see and it is a day that I have longed for the past three months to come and be here with you.

As I was in the far West on the coast of California, my people asked me to stay with them through the summer. I told them that as business would bring me East sometime during the season, I was bound to be here in season to attend this reunion. As I came through the city of Kansas I met the head of a family of Nyes that we would be proud to meet here to-day. He was a doctor in the place and was well known and was glad that he be-

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes the need for transparency and accountability in financial reporting.

2. The second part of the document outlines the various methods and techniques used to collect and analyze data. It includes a detailed description of the experimental procedures and the statistical analysis performed.

3. The third part of the document presents the results of the study. It includes a series of tables and graphs that illustrate the findings of the research. The data shows a clear trend of increasing activity over time.

4. The fourth part of the document discusses the implications of the findings. It suggests that the results have significant implications for the field of study and may lead to further research in this area.

5. The fifth part of the document concludes the study. It summarizes the main findings and provides a final statement on the importance of the research.

6. The sixth part of the document includes a list of references. It cites various sources that have been used in the study, including books, articles, and other documents.

7. The seventh part of the document includes a list of appendices. It provides additional information that is not included in the main body of the document, such as raw data and detailed calculations.

8. The eighth part of the document includes a list of figures. It provides a visual representation of the data, including line graphs, bar charts, and other visual aids.

9. The ninth part of the document includes a list of tables. It provides a detailed summary of the data, including numerical values and statistical results.

10. The tenth part of the document includes a list of footnotes. It provides additional information that is not included in the main body of the document, such as corrections and clarifications.

longed to the Nyes. In Colorado I met a family of Nyes also, one was a doctor and the other was a clerk in a store. When I visited Los Angeles, there I found three or four families. I met there a couple of young ladies from Vermont, and I found by investigation that those two young ladies were the descendants of Benjamin Nye and they were second cousins of mine. I was very glad to meet them and give to them the hand of friendship, but as I sat back in my chair to-day and heard that eloquent speech by Rev. William H. Rider, and as I could see that he has lately been near my home, it carried me back to old Vermont. I am so proud to-day to be a Vermonter and to-day he spoke of being in Orange County, and in two weeks from to-day I expect to be in that County. To-day I am a resident of Washington County, where I have been for the past 44 years. Nearly all my life I have been in Washington County, except for six months when I was in Orange County.

I have taught in all those towns as a common schoolmaster. You all know what those old schoolmasters were and how they were treated and how they were always put out of school by the scholars, but I am glad to be able to say that I have never been put out of school. They must have known that I was Nye.

Now Brothers and Sisters of the Association and Cousins: After I came home I thought I would come down to this association and so I went to work and wrote up a long document. The minister who boarded with me, and he is a Nye, as his mother is my sister, wrote his sermon and I wrote my document, and when I came away I took his sermon and he has got my document. I was a good deal like an old man up my way. He advertised for a wife and he wanted a woman that was a neat, tidy housewife and a person who did not smoke and who did not take snuff. The next day letters began to pour in and finally he opened one and it said:

*My dear intended:*

I have left off taking snuff this morning and I have not smoked since last night and I will meet you at your home to-morrow night. And to get out of that he took his hat and left and has not been heard from since.





As I have said before, I am glad to be here with you and I should be pleased to see you at my home in Vermont any time. Mr. Robert W. Thompson, who responded to my invitation two years ago, came to my place and I tried to make it pleasant for him and his words will tell you whether he was cared for or not. When he was at my home I had a little boy whom I took out of the Orphans' Home. He was a very fine boy and was very fond of Mr. Thompson, and when Mr. Thompson went away I saw him slip a piece of silver into the boy's hand and for quite a number of days that little boy would speak of Mr. Thompson. In less than a month from that time that little boy was dead. He was the pride of my heart. I have taken six children from the Orphans' Home and I have tried to raise them to be good men and women. One is a mother and settled in life very happily. Another one is a young lady and is a graduate from the Normal School in New York. It is my pride and my delight to see the children rising up and I hope the Nye Family will see to it that the Nye children will rise up and call their ancestors blessed.

This afternoon the memorial will be held, when the unveiling of that rock will take place and we can look back more than 200 years and reverence him who has come to America and scattered the seeds throughout the world. You can go through every city of the Union and go to every civilized country in the world and there you will find the name of Nye; I have found it so wherever I have travelled and I can say that I hardly ever find anyone that is wrong in any way, but once in a while it will crop out, but as a general thing they are a class of people that I delight to-day to be one of, and glad to associate with.

When I was in Pasadena, California, I went to the Massachusetts Society. My son was President of the association. He lived in Boston for a number of years and he asked me to go to that Society and there I could see the stalwart forms of old New England.

Now, if you will allow me a little while this afternoon, I would like to speak to the children of Sandwich. I will tell them of my travels in the west and will show them the views, the flowers, the business that is going on there; I will show them the pictures and the Old Mission church and I think that I can make it pleasant



for them. And now, if there is a half hour I would like to meet them.

I am thankful that I have had the privilege of sitting here with you and speaking a word to you here to-day and I will now leave the subject until a little later.

Mrs. Belcher then moved that a committee of one be appointed to have the care of the lot, where the boulder is placed, that Mr. William L. Nye of Sandwich constitute that committee and that this association pay for all bills incurred in the care of the lot. Motion was seconded and carried.

Everett I. Nye, Postmaster at Wellfleet, said that there were five post-offices in the U. S. bearing the name of Nye. The Secretary read an invitation from Benjamin Franklin Nye of Highgate Centre, Vermont, to hold the next reunion at that place.

Mr. Everett I. Nye moved that we accept this invitation and that next year we hold our Nye Family Reunion at Highgate Centre. Motion was carried.

The exercises of the morning closed with a Hymn sung by the audience.

In the afternoon of Aug. 6, at 3 o'clock p. m., the Family gathered in Town Hall Square for the great event of the Re-union, the Dedication of the Benjamin Nye Memorial. This field boulder weighing 20 tons was draped with the American flag and on the top was an oak wreath, the symbol of the Family.

The presentation of the Memorial stone was read by Mrs. Henry Alden Belcher, Chairman of Memorial Committee, and was as follows :

*Mr. President and Members of the Nye Family of America :*

To those present and to all who are the descendants of our common ancestors, I give greeting.

The work assigned to the committee, of which I am the chairman, has now been completed, and to me has been given the pleasant duty of turning over to the association our finished work.





Perhaps a word as to the choice of this boulder as a memorial may be given you at this time. It seems fitting to the committee that this old stone, which for hundreds of years has stood in the forest bearing the blunt and the rack of time, would more fittingly represent the strength of character and work of one of the settlers of these forest wilds, than any granite or marble shaft carved by the hand of the artisan of the present time.

Upon the face of the stone is this simple tablet bearing the names of our common father and mother. At the top we have placed the date 1635, showing to all that for 273 years the memory of their names and deeds has been revered and kept alive. At the bottom of the tablet we place the date 1908, which also tells to the passer-by that their descendants of to-day honor that memory and place this memorial here to tell the future generations of Nyes to keep alive the sturdy honesty and uprightness of character which was characteristic of this our ancestor, and as the greatest honor we could pay to their names, we have placed this legend at the bottom of the tablet, "We best serve the interest of posterity by treasuring the memory of our ancestors."

As we believe that we render a service to this generation, second only to the inestimable service which our ancestors rendered in founding the government upon the sound principles which they did, if we treasure the records and memories of their deeds and keep alive and in constant service the same principles which actuated them.

It is needless for me to try and deliver a eulogy upon their lives; it has already been done at our different re-unions by many of their descendants in words more fitting than I can give. When we look back where this old boulder stood, by the forest trail of the Indian, and read from the records the story of those men and women of which our ancestor was part, who taking their lives in their hands, came here and reclaimed this wilderness and planted here the town of Sandwich, who would say that their life work was not well done? And while our ancestors were not great as we reckon greatness in the hum and bustle of to-day, yet we need only to look around us at this beautiful town, and broadening our gaze we take in this great country of ours, the peer of the world, and we say to ourselves that this man, who was our ancestor, was



one of the founders of this greatness, and while he was a simple citizen of this town which he helped to found, he has by his integrity and strength of character, left an undying record.

Our ancestor walked in the humble sphere of life as a mill owner and farmer, yet he left a family whose descendants, broadening out from town to town and from state to state, have taken their part as statesmen, lawyers, merchants, literary men, and workers, so that to-day his descendants represent nearly every state in the Union, and they bring as an offering to their memory the records of good service in all the different walks of life.

Five years ago the descendants of this man and woman, whom we honor to-day, gathered for the first time and gave to each other and to all Nyes wherever they were, fraternal greetings. Since then we have held five re-unions of the family, and certainly have kindled a fire of friendship and fraternity which would not have existed had not the Nye Family of America been organized. We have delved into the records of the past and it has been given to you in the published form, and to-day we dedicate to the memory of our ancestors this enduring monument as a token of love and gratitude to them, and as we have accomplished so much by organization, I hope and trust that all descendants of our ancestors may take deep interest in prolonging the existence of our association.

And now Mr. President I present to you this memorial and trust that to it all the Nyes of this and future generations may look for courage and inspiration to carry on the work of this association.

At the sound of the cornet, James Wesson Freeman, grandson of the Vice President, and Clara Nye Smith, grand-daughter of our late deceased Secretary, Mrs. S. Curtis Smith, unveiled the stone, revealing the beautiful bronze tablet bearing the following inscription :

1637

Erected by the Nye Family of America  
to the memory of their ancestors

Benjamin Nye and

Katharine Tupper his wife

We best serve the interest of posterity  
by treasuring the memory of our ancestors

1908



The address of acceptance by the association was read by Vice-President, James L. Wesson, and was as follows :

*Mrs. Belcher :*

As vice-president of the Nye Family Association of America, I accept for the society this memorial stone and in doing so wish to express for myself as well as for the members of the association our high appreciation of the interest, untiring energy and hard work which you have so freely given in order to secure such a beautiful and fitting memorial to our ancestors, Benjamin Nye and Katharine Tupper. We hope it will remain here for all time, and act as a reminder to coming generations of men and women, of the sterling qualities of these pioneers of Sandwich and progenitors of the many who have worthily borne the name of Nye. It will also, I hope, incite those who see it to study the early history of this country and especially of this section, so rich in interesting details, and learn what manner of men they were who left home and country to make new homes and found a new country in the wilderness, and by such study learn to appreciate and practice the sturdy qualities which kept them in their chosen path, chosen without a full realization of the difficulties to be overcome, but by their steady adherence to their ideas resulting in this great Republic, now one of the powers of the world.

I sincerely regret that our president is not able to be here to personally address you on this most interesting occasion, but in his behalf and representing this association I again thank you for what you have accomplished as chairman of the memorial committee and wish you a long life of usefulness and prosperity.

A dedication prayer was offered by Rev. William H. Rider which was followed by an address also by Mr. Rider as follows :

*Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen :*

Apart from the interest which the descendants of Benjamin Nye and Katharine Tupper may have in the dedicating of this





stone, may I congratulate you as residents of this grand old town of Sandwich upon the position of such an emblem of past courage, an emblem which even in its silence shall speak to your children and to those who shall come after you.

This stone will teach us how grateful we all ought to be to those who have labored before us and have made possible all the advantages and the privileges of this grand country of ours. They were average people and out of the average how it helps you and it helps me to know that we are keeping true to that which has been handed down to us and that we do the best we can where we are placed.

I doubt if your public schools of Sandwich will hand a more valuable lesson to your children than this honored monument and the passer-by as he rides through this pleasant town and wonders what manner of men laid out these grounds and laid out the colonial houses, he will know that the men who laid the foundations of this town of Sandwich were distinguished; and as a son of old Cape Cod I am grateful to those whose minds conceived the idea of erecting this stone and I rejoice with you and thank God for all that it stands for. A man ought to thank God every day that he lives and that he lives in a country as this and that the blood of such a man and of such a woman surges through his body.

Bye and bye we will begin to learn that a man need not cross the great seas to Europe; bye and bye we will learn that here in this great cosmopolitan statesmanship of America we have the best of all the world; that it seemed to me as if God, seeking for a new country like a wise husbandman, had saved his seed and put the best of it in this new soil.

This was followed by the reading of an original ode by its author, Miss Abbie F. Nye of Sandwich :

To the youth who left home and heritage fair  
In English soil beyond the sea,  
To cast his lot in a world unknown,  
And build his share of the world to be;  
To the bride he won in the forest's shade,  
"Twixt strokes of the axe, by his manhood true,  
We, sons and daughters of Benjamin Nye,  
Now place this stone as a tribute due.



For the strength of mind and the spirit brave  
Of the lad among men, who bore his part  
'Mid danger and toil, with eager throb  
Of the Viking blood in his sturdy heart,  
The granite rough of this boulder gray  
Is emblem fit; for the tempest shock,  
Nor heat, nor cold, nor the passing years,  
Can sap the strength of the solid rock.

As vines and blossoms of beauteous growth  
In the shade of the rock find shelter and life,  
There bloomed by his hearth, 'neath his fostering smile,  
Young children fair, whose merriment rife  
In the mantle of toil wove a coloring bright.  
And his children's children here proffer to-day  
Their gift of respect and affection pure,  
In granite rough, to remain alway.

Our debt we acknowledge with gratitude deep  
To the gentle Katharine, whose womanly grace  
Transformed the cot to a dwelling fair,  
Alight with the love in her winsome face.  
As she toiled and sang at her daily tasks,  
Near the sandy shore where the blue waves foam,  
From her gracious presence was ever diffused  
The magical charm that makes a home.

There are grades of service in our busy world  
Which man can render his fellowman,  
But none, we opine, whose intrinsic worth  
Can in value outweigh, since time began,  
The simple duty of standing firm,  
Of doing one's best, whate'er may betide.  
That our parents revered, this service gave,  
Is cause sufficient for honest pride.





Proud Rome, in the days of her glory and might,  
For civic worth, gave the oak leaf crown ;  
We twine our oak in enduring bronze,  
To speak for aye in this ancient town  
Of the upright life of a citizen true,  
And the love we bear our ancestral name.  
That the silver and blue in its scutcheon old  
Untarnished remain, be our steadfast aim.

Then followed a short address by Rev. Milton R. Kerr, pastor of the First Parish church, who was chairman of a committee appointed by the town to confer with the Memorial Committee in regard to site for the boulder. George T. McLaughlin, one of the Selectmen of Sandwich, in a few well chosen words, accepted the gift of the boulder from the Nye Family to the town, after which the vast audience joined in the singing of America.

After these exercises Mr. and Mrs. James L. Wesson received the Family at their summer home, Fairview, where a delightful hour was spent.

In the evening there was a Musicale at the church, given by the Channing Quartette of Boston, Mr. Dolliver organist, and Miss Stickney, violinist.

This closed the program of the second day.

On Friday the association accepted the invitation of William F. Nye to spend the day as his guests at Fairhaven, Mass. About two hundred and fifty left early by train and special trolley cars for this town, where they were met by Mr. Nye and his son, Joseph K. Nye, who conducted the party first to the famous Millicent Library, built by Henry II. Rogers in memory of his daughter, then to the finely appointed Town Hall, when as the party started across the street the wonderful chimes in the Memorial church tower began ringing out a welcome, an honor seldom before accorded to visitors. The church is like a cathedral in



foreign lands and the visitors were delighted with its beauty, and to add to their pleasure, Alton B. Paull, the organist, gave an organ recital, and afterwards showed the intricate points of the organ to the musical members of the Family. From here the party proceeded to the High school building, through the beautiful park and the spacious approaches, finding the most finely equipped school building in the country. All these buildings are the gift of Mr. Rogers to the town of Fairhaven. Trolley cars were in waiting to convey the party to Fort Phoenix, where was gained a most entrancing view of Vineyard Sound with its busy shipping.

Then followed a real Cape Cod clam-bake, one of Grimshaw's best, which Mr. Nye had served to the entire party and to which all did full justice. A vote of thanks was given to Mr. Nye for his generous hospitality. The party arrived in Sandwich at 6 p. m., all voting it the pleasantest day ever spent by the association.

In the evening the family met at the Casino where a farewell reception and ball was given to the members and the townspeople with McCann's orchestra furnishing the music. About twelve o'clock all members of the family joined hands around the hall and sang Auld Lang Syne.

God be with you till we meet again.





FALLS OF THE MISSISQUOI RIVER





## PROCEEDINGS OF THE SIXTH REUNION.

---

By invitation of Mr. Benjamin F. Nye of Highgate Centre, Vt., the re-union was held in this most charming town. The Methodist church, which was the place of meeting, was beautifully decorated by the younger members of the family with oak leaves and flowers. The first meeting was called to order on the afternoon of Aug. 4, at three o'clock p. m., by Mrs. Annie Nye Smith of Littleton Common, Mass., secretary of the association. In the absence of the president and vice-president, the meetings were presided over by vote of the association, by Mr. William L. Nye of Sandwich, chairman of the executive committee.

The first session was opened with an organ voluntary by Mrs. G. L. Butler of Highgate Centre, and this was followed by prayer by the Rev. Elmer I. Nye of Georgia, Vt., and the singing of a hymn. The address of welcome was given by Mr. Albert N. Nye of East Highgate, Vt. :

### *Mr. President, Friends and Kinsmen :*

Being one of the Nyes of Highgate, I have been assigned the pleasure of extending to you all a hearty welcome, and as the history of the Nye family has been so well written, I will only speak of one, of Benjamin Nye, who left his home in 1635 to make his home on this continent. When I see so many of you here together, I feel proud that we are his descendants and belong to the Nye family. I might say a word about the beauties of the town, speak of some points of landscape that are beautiful. Our rivers, lakes and mountains form magnificent scenery and looking be-

## THEORY OF THE EARTH

CHAPTER I

The earth is a sphere, and its surface is divided into two parts, the land and the water. The land is divided into continents and islands, and the water is divided into oceans and seas. The continents are divided into countries, and the islands are divided into islands. The oceans and seas are divided into gulfs, bays, and straits. The land is divided into mountains, hills, and valleys. The water is divided into rivers, lakes, and ponds. The earth is covered with plants and animals. The plants are divided into trees, shrubs, and herbs. The animals are divided into birds, beasts, and insects. The earth is the home of all living creatures.

## THEORY OF THE EARTH

The earth is a sphere, and its surface is divided into two parts, the land and the water. The land is divided into continents and islands, and the water is divided into oceans and seas. The continents are divided into countries, and the islands are divided into islands. The oceans and seas are divided into gulfs, bays, and straits. The land is divided into mountains, hills, and valleys. The water is divided into rivers, lakes, and ponds. The earth is covered with plants and animals. The plants are divided into trees, shrubs, and herbs. The animals are divided into birds, beasts, and insects. The earth is the home of all living creatures.

yond, we see Jays Peak, Camel's Hump, and in the west the Adirondacks, and on a clear day we can see the city of Montreal, making a beautiful picture.

Again in the name of the Nyes of Highgate, I extend to you a hearty welcome.

Then followed a welcome to the young generation by Mr. Lynford O. Nye of Highgate Centre, Vt. :

*Mr. President and Relatives :*

For the past year I have been on the School Board, and if there is ever any arrangement to be made with the ladies of the school, Uncle Albert is always first on the job. You have all heard his remarks, and it is not suitable for me to say anything else. There is no other family that I would rather address than the Nye family. It is only due to my father that you are here to-day. If there are any mistakes it is due to us. When Benjamin Nye first landed, what do you suppose was his first welcome? There was no band out to meet him. The birds were singing their sweetest songs, and the woods of New England sang sweet welcome to him. Can you imagine a sweeter welcome? Take the acorn, I think that is very appropriate. It lives all winter, and in the spring comes forth sending out a root, creeping along step by step, sending out its branches, until at last it is a thing of beauty. What can be more beautiful than the grand old trees of California, and the wheat fields of Canada? We find beauty in every pursuit of life. When you get back to your homes perhaps the children will gather around you for a story. May there always be some pleasant story in your memory of the old Green Mountain State. I bid you welcome, and you will find our hearts, as well as our doors, wide open to receive you.

Welcome to Highgate was given by Mr. C. G. Austin of Highgate, Vt. :

*Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Nye Family :*

I do not belong to the Nye family, but I am a citizen of Highgate and I esteem it an honor in behalf of the citizens of Highgate





to tender to you a hearty welcome to our town. I am proud of Highgate, and we all feel that you have bestowed upon Highgate an honor in holding your annual family re-union with us. Let me say to you that you have made no mistake in seeking your entertainment in Highgate. Highgate lies in the beautiful Champlain valley that has so recently been decorated for its tercentennial landmark of its discovery. The Green Mountains on one side, and the beautiful lake on the other hand, forms one of the most beautiful spots on earth. I regret that our beautiful lands are seared with the drouth, but there still remains beautiful scenes that cannot fade away. You have come to the birthplace of the great American poet, John G. Saxe, to hold your re-union. You are now within the sound of the waterfall where stands the mill to-day, in which "Jerry the Miller" ground the corn for the Nye family, about whom Saxe wrote his celebrated poem. History carries us back to the thirteenth century, in Europe and in this country, to about the time of the landing of the Pilgrim fathers. Highgate has been renowned by their residence for nearly three-quarters of a century, and I can say that they have been among our most honored and respected citizens. It is not my wish to speak of your virtues nor your faults. My experience has taught me that I should not interfere with family affairs. I am to say to you, in behalf of the people of Highgate, that we cheerfully greet you; that our latchstring is out, and that we hope that your stay with us will be pleasant, and that you carry away with you a fond remembrance of your Nye re-union at Highgate.

A response was given by Capt. C. F. Nye, Pawnee City, Neb., as follows :

*Mr. President, Relatives and Friends :*

The coming together at this time carries my thoughts back beyond my own boyhood, to my father and my father's father. We come to talk of our ancestors, and to see the link that binds. The getting back to New England again with her heroic histories; her puritanism and witchery; to Vermont the home of the Allens



and the Warners, and to this good old Highgate. The panorama of life unfolds to me, and for awhile holds my heart and almost seals my lips. Here it was as a boy, a father's hand led and protected me as I followed the uncertain paths of boyhood. A mother's knee was the sacred altar, where first I lisped my evening prayer. The storms of life, whatever be its goal, never efface, or dim the winding paths where men travel, be it up or down the roadway of this great world. Should my soul, as it enters the great world of mysteries discover the secrets of creation, and forever stand mute in wonder and awe, I am desirous, while wandering here, that sentiment with her high ideals should hold the lamp of life and lead on and up. Call this what you may, God or Force, let us get within and feel the search of this great uplift.

Once riding among the sandhills of the west, in one perhaps of the world's greatest wildernesses, after long hours of traveling and fatigue, I asked the driver if he knew where we were, and whither we were traveling. Looking toward the north star he replied, "We are all right." No matter what the other worlds do, this star never changes. In my sleeping and waking, Vermont is my north star. Once, on this pine clad plain, I was a boy beside the music of this rushing river; these sands were in my shoes; here my soul first drank of the world's myths, and absorbed a minimum of the force here displayed, that moves the world.

From the north, south, east and west we come to talk of our ancestors, and show each other how we look. It is plain enough to see God makes Nyes everywhere. For myself perhaps I owe to these winding paths, to these hills and rivers, to this atmosphere and the shade of these mountains, and to your fathers and brothers the making of my manhood. It was in Highgate my eyes first saw the sun. As a boy my feet first walked these roads, and climbed these hills. New England's ballads fired my brain; her history and school moulded my mind. The rhythm of her drum beat gave cadence to my step; her trumpet's blow fired my heart. I heard the battle cry of her sons and rushed with them into the mad revelry of slaughter and death.

Environment fashions the oak to suit nature's needs, or even moulds the form and soul of man. The leopard may not change



its spots, but what of man? The unchained river levels the mountain, and of its substance makes a valley in the sea, but what of man? Has creation come to a halt, and the creator finished his handiwork? Honor thy father and mother is the universal sacred code to man. God himself enthroned it in the savage breast. Confucius burned it into the hearts of his followers. And the conquering Jap, who has the spirit of his father, poises the uplifted blade and rides in the serried ranks to the last great harvest. Standing beside the white monuments of the historic Custer battlefield, each marking the spot where a leader and his heroes fell, I asked a young Indian to tell me of that battle. Civilization had not broadened his brain or seared his soul. Reclining with him upon those sacred stones he began, "my fathers tell me," and as he told me of that wild battle, the gloom of the mountain night enshrouded us with a horror, and in my soul I heard the bugle call, and in that weird shuddering night, I saw the ever narrowing circle of death enclosing us closer and closer in its coils. I heard the three volleys go ringing down the plain, a prayer for succor to Benteen, and a soldier's last farewell to home and to the world. I saw that noble band of two hundred and sixty, more heroic and devastated than the four hundred at Balkalana on that Sioux swept hill, silently sinking into the earth, and the crafty bull revelling in a feast of blood. The mountain winds will whisper these heroic lyrics long after time has ground those granite monuments into dust. The history of a nation is woven from the coming and going of the shuttle of her collected clans, these clans becoming great and powerful according to their absorption from other and outside forces.

The Nye clan, assembled here, having partaken of hardship and having drank from the fountain of growth, strength came to it. From Bunker Hill to Yorktown, they followed and shared the Continental army fortunes, and at a later day became a factor in all the nation's struggles, and gave a hand to make the starry banner beloved in all parts of the world.

This has been styled an age of money getting. St. Gaudens substituted for the Bird of Liberty, an imitation of the Missouri hen on the new twenty dollar gold coin. The facilities of a Montana sheepman for making money are not to be compared to a



The first of these is the fact that the  
 second of these is the fact that the  
 third of these is the fact that the  
 fourth of these is the fact that the  
 fifth of these is the fact that the  
 sixth of these is the fact that the  
 seventh of these is the fact that the  
 eighth of these is the fact that the  
 ninth of these is the fact that the  
 tenth of these is the fact that the  
 eleventh of these is the fact that the  
 twelfth of these is the fact that the  
 thirteenth of these is the fact that the  
 fourteenth of these is the fact that the  
 fifteenth of these is the fact that the  
 sixteenth of these is the fact that the  
 seventeenth of these is the fact that the  
 eighteenth of these is the fact that the  
 nineteenth of these is the fact that the  
 twentieth of these is the fact that the  
 twenty-first of these is the fact that the  
 twenty-second of these is the fact that the  
 twenty-third of these is the fact that the  
 twenty-fourth of these is the fact that the  
 twenty-fifth of these is the fact that the  
 twenty-sixth of these is the fact that the  
 twenty-seventh of these is the fact that the  
 twenty-eighth of these is the fact that the  
 twenty-ninth of these is the fact that the  
 thirtieth of these is the fact that the  
 thirty-first of these is the fact that the  
 thirty-second of these is the fact that the  
 thirty-third of these is the fact that the  
 thirty-fourth of these is the fact that the  
 thirty-fifth of these is the fact that the  
 thirty-sixth of these is the fact that the  
 thirty-seventh of these is the fact that the  
 thirty-eighth of these is the fact that the  
 thirty-ninth of these is the fact that the  
 fortieth of these is the fact that the  
 forty-first of these is the fact that the  
 forty-second of these is the fact that the  
 forty-third of these is the fact that the  
 forty-fourth of these is the fact that the  
 forty-fifth of these is the fact that the  
 forty-sixth of these is the fact that the  
 forty-seventh of these is the fact that the  
 forty-eighth of these is the fact that the  
 forty-ninth of these is the fact that the  
 fiftieth of these is the fact that the  
 fifty-first of these is the fact that the  
 fifty-second of these is the fact that the  
 fifty-third of these is the fact that the  
 fifty-fourth of these is the fact that the  
 fifty-fifth of these is the fact that the  
 fifty-sixth of these is the fact that the  
 fifty-seventh of these is the fact that the  
 fifty-eighth of these is the fact that the  
 fifty-ninth of these is the fact that the  
 sixtieth of these is the fact that the  
 sixty-first of these is the fact that the  
 sixty-second of these is the fact that the  
 sixty-third of these is the fact that the  
 sixty-fourth of these is the fact that the  
 sixty-fifth of these is the fact that the  
 sixty-sixth of these is the fact that the  
 sixty-seventh of these is the fact that the  
 sixty-eighth of these is the fact that the  
 sixty-ninth of these is the fact that the  
 seventieth of these is the fact that the  
 seventy-first of these is the fact that the  
 seventy-second of these is the fact that the  
 seventy-third of these is the fact that the  
 seventy-fourth of these is the fact that the  
 seventy-fifth of these is the fact that the  
 seventy-sixth of these is the fact that the  
 seventy-seventh of these is the fact that the  
 seventy-eighth of these is the fact that the  
 seventy-ninth of these is the fact that the  
 eightieth of these is the fact that the  
 eighty-first of these is the fact that the  
 eighty-second of these is the fact that the  
 eighty-third of these is the fact that the  
 eighty-fourth of these is the fact that the  
 eighty-fifth of these is the fact that the  
 eighty-sixth of these is the fact that the  
 eighty-seventh of these is the fact that the  
 eighty-eighth of these is the fact that the  
 eighty-ninth of these is the fact that the  
 ninetieth of these is the fact that the  
 ninety-first of these is the fact that the  
 ninety-second of these is the fact that the  
 ninety-third of these is the fact that the  
 ninety-fourth of these is the fact that the  
 ninety-fifth of these is the fact that the  
 ninety-sixth of these is the fact that the  
 ninety-seventh of these is the fact that the  
 ninety-eighth of these is the fact that the  
 ninety-ninth of these is the fact that the  
 hundredth of these is the fact that the

place on the Ways and Means Committee of the United States Senate while tinkering with the Tariff Bill. We read of abandoned farms here in Vermont, yet a school mar'm from Massachusetts, in 1891, made the run at the first opening for an Oklahoma farm, and planted the little flag as an emblem of title, till Uncle Sam could give her a better one. And your sons are permitting these old historic homes to pass into the wilderness of non-American names. When the Viking ships sailed the European seas and rivers, the Northmen were getting a foothold in Europe. They were molding our future destiny, the clan of the Nyes. They were among Cromwell's conquerors.

After distribution of programs and social greetings, the meeting adjourned until eight o'clock in the evening.

The evening session was opened by an organ voluntary by Mrs. Butler of Highgate.

Two solos were beautifully rendered by the Rev. George Smith of Highgate Centre, Vt., minister of the Methodist church.

Mr. H. A. Belcher moved that a committee of five be appointed to nominate officers for the ensuing year. Motion seconded by Mr. W. G. Nye of Montpelier. Carried. Committee appointed were Mr. H. A. Belcher, Randolph, Mass., Mr. T. Wilson Nye of Salem, Mass., Mr. W. G. Nye of Montpelier, Vt., Mr. Everett I. Nye of Wellfleet, Mass., and Capt. C. F. Nye of Pawnee City, Neb.

A paper on Sandwich was then read by William L. Nye, after which Rev. Elmer I. Nye of East Georgia, Vt., gave the following address:

As a student of God's Holy Word, I find the Old Testament a history of the Jews, and in that history the Jews have always been very interesting, looking back to Father Abraham's time. They have always felt that you were not in it, unless a direct descendant from Father Abraham. This love of ancestry is universal, and our Creator knowing this fact, and teaching by para-

The first of these was the establishment of the  
city of Boston in 1630. The second was the  
establishment of the city of New York in 1624.  
The third was the establishment of the city of  
Philadelphia in 1682. The fourth was the  
establishment of the city of London in 1666.  
The fifth was the establishment of the city of  
Paris in 1660. The sixth was the  
establishment of the city of Rome in 1644.  
The seventh was the establishment of the city of  
Vienna in 1683. The eighth was the  
establishment of the city of Constantinople in 1667.  
The ninth was the establishment of the city of  
Istanbul in 1660. The tenth was the  
establishment of the city of Cairo in 1698.  
The eleventh was the establishment of the city of  
Baghdad in 1691. The twelfth was the  
establishment of the city of Bombay in 1688.  
The thirteenth was the establishment of the city of  
Calcutta in 1700. The fourteenth was the  
establishment of the city of Madras in 1639.  
The fifteenth was the establishment of the city of  
Bengal in 1690. The sixteenth was the  
establishment of the city of Pondicherry in 1674.  
The seventeenth was the establishment of the city of  
Mauritius in 1638. The eighteenth was the  
establishment of the city of Reunion in 1665.  
The nineteenth was the establishment of the city of  
Nagasaki in 1639. The twentieth was the  
establishment of the city of Yokohama in 1859.  
The twenty-first was the establishment of the city of  
Kobe in 1863. The twenty-second was the  
establishment of the city of Osaka in 1868.  
The twenty-third was the establishment of the city of  
Kyoto in 1868. The twenty-fourth was the  
establishment of the city of Tokyo in 1868.  
The twenty-fifth was the establishment of the city of  
Hankow in 1858. The twenty-sixth was the  
establishment of the city of Shanghai in 1842.  
The twenty-seventh was the establishment of the city of  
Tientsin in 1858. The twenty-eighth was the  
establishment of the city of Peking in 1860.  
The twenty-ninth was the establishment of the city of  
Tientsin in 1860. The thirtieth was the  
establishment of the city of Peking in 1860.

ble, as he so often does, in telling us of the hope in Christ says "Look ye unto the Lamb of God from whence cometh thy light."

In looking back in Jewish history, one of the characters that has always had my love, is Joseph, the dreamer, and look afterwards how the life of the whole family was saved by the dreamer. Too often all the credit is given to the practical ones, but it is the dreams of the dreamer, put in use by the practical ones, that bring success. Now let me be a little egotistical, as I claim that I am a dreamer and like to tell my dreams, and I love to think that Benjamin Nye of old was a dreamer. For did he not like Joseph of old come to New England in 1635, and establish a home for the great family of Nyes, now known? In my dreams I see Benjamin Nye, like Joseph of old, marrying Katharine Tupper, the minister's daughter.

How like the dreamer of old is our Benjamin, and as I dream I feel that this faculty I have of dreaming has come down to me from Benjamin of old. For do not these characteristics come down to us through the race like tides? On the shores we find, swept up by the tides, relics from all lands. I am in my home and an arrow comes dashing through the window, and as I pick up the arrow and look it over, I go to the door, and see a bow in my seven-year-old boy's hand. I think this arrow has come to my feet by the tides of the human race from the long ago, when my ancestors were a wild race. Some of the old warrior's blood of my ancestors of old, has come down the tides of human life to my boy, and he shoulders the arrow as he has a passion for warlike instruments, and in his manoeuvres shoots the arrow, that crashes through the window and falls at my feet. So my way of dreaming has come down in the tides of human life, and it is the same old art as of old, when Benjamin left the old country and came to New England. I often wonder if the characteristics in our lives have come down to us, from our ancestors of old. So in the daily grind of business life, members of our family have discovered the beautiful little life of a tree, and in the past six years it has developed this beautiful tree of the Nye Family of America, and it has given me much joy and pleasure in the past days. It has given me new inspirations to live, and I am sure that as we encourage its life, none of the human family or the great march





of the universe, will think that we are hard-hearted or wicked, or capable of wrong-doing when we cherish such a love, as the beautiful tree of the Nye family of America. I am sure that none of such a noble body will want to do anything that will deaden the conscience, but do all they can to quicken the conscience, and thus make of ourselves the true nobility of the land, that in the years to come when the test is applied to any of our family there will be found plenty of material to build the best of ladies and gentlemen.

It was Shakespeare who said "There is a tide in the affairs of men which taken at the flood leads on to fortune." Are not these times the flood tide of our history, which has brought down to us all these relics of our past history? And in my dreams I see all the members of our family taking these things and building themselves into such characters as will make our name great in the annals of time. For never was there a time in all the history of the world that true ladies and gentlemen were needed more than now. For these are wondrous days when it does seem as though the wildest dreams of the novelist of old were brought to pass, as the inventors of science allow us to travel so swiftly on the earth, under the earth and above the earth, and to hear all that is going on, in all parts of the world while we eat our breakfast or dinner. In all these things do we not see the flood tide times, of the history of the human race when if all these blessings are taken and used to the best advantage will bring to the future, beauty and wealth and glory; and was not our Benjamin the dreamer, sent here to the shores of New England for this purpose that in these times when the tides of our family affairs are coming to the flood tide with the affairs of all human history for us to be among those who make their names great by using wisely the days and hours of these wondrous years.

Aye for these reasons was our Joseph sent unto Egypt, the land of plenty of corn, that we might be a blessing to the whole human race. A peculiar interest is attached to the history of some natures, and is not altogether absent from our own, the precision with which we can trace the character of families, descending often with the same unmistakable lineaments, from father to son for many generations. One knows at once to what



families to look for restless and turbulent spirits ready for conspiracy and revolution, and one knows also where to seek steady and faithful loyalty, public spiritedness or native ability. And in the early history of New England were not our fathers of this soil building, or helping to build, its historical beauty and strength of character? Who can say to the contrary, that in all its history these noble characters have not followed down unto all the generations, and the Nyes have truly been character builders in our noble land. We read in the Scriptures, how when the sons of Jacob came to the old man's bedside for his blessing, he said of Joseph, Joseph is a fruitful bough, even a fruitful bough by a well whose branches run over the well. God had made him fruitful. His two sons were as branches of a vine. They had been, and would be, fruitful in the future in bringing joy and comfort and blessing to others. So in my dreams I see our Benjamin and his descendants as a fruitful tree. Aye, the Nye family of America is a fruitful tree, bringing blessing to all that know it. Do you really get the power of the word? That the family is the strength of the nation. Individuals bound together by love for mutual help and comfort and protection is the nucleus of the nation. God called Abraham from his people to make of him a family, the nucleus of the great family of heaven. First to be the family, then the tribes, then the nation, and then the gathering together of all the nations to make the family of God. Surely when the family tie is broken up then the nation weakens. When there is no family to gather at the fireside at the close of the day's labor, then the country is in hard lines.

It is the family that makes the home. It is the home that makes the stalwart man, the gentleman, the housekeeper, and the lady. It is such that makes a strong nation. It is from the home of the family who have an altar for the worship of the one true God, that the honest statesman must come. If our country is in great danger from graft and dishonesty, it is because the family altar has been taken down, and not used as in the days of Benjamin Nye and Katharine Tupper.

Friends, I am glad to-day for the Nye Family Association of America that it is a fruitful tree, and may be depended upon by our nation for true patriotism to bring forth character builders.



These are the days when the nation must look to the families for their noble men and noble women, and I see in my dreams the Nye Family of America. I seem to see these family associations, a great help to the brotherhood of mankind, in softening down the lines, the hard lines that once divided Christian people in denominations. Thus I see in my dreams a blessing to the individual in the Nye Family of America.

I see a blessing to our several families. I see a blessing to our nation. I see a blessing to the family of God, and may God grant that as descendants of Benjamin and Katharine of old we may be a fruitful vine by a well whose branches run over the well, making green and fresh all the years of time, by kindly ways and noble deeds. Friends, we are of like passions with all the human race. Let us each one see to it that the passions do not become hard and cruel stones and crowd and crush out the life of our vine that has become a pleasure to us. There are sunshine makers and lemon squeezers in the world in the human form. There are those whose particular occupation seems to be to squeeze the sour out of everything. Everything is bitter to them. They cannot enjoy a friend because of his faults; his mistakes and weaknesses loom up so large that they cannot appreciate the good in him. They cannot see the man, God intended perfect and immortal. They see only the deformed, crippled, handicapped man who in their opinion will never come to any good. Nor do they see the world God made. The beauty that looks out of the landscape is all lost to them. They only see the floods, fires, the earthquakes and lightning, the works that destroy. They are blind to beauty. It is all covered up in the ugly. They do not hear the infinite harmonies that entrance the ear; that are in tune with the infinite. That is all lost to them.

Friends, I see in my dreams the Nye Family, a band of sunshine makers. As we gather in these re-unions there is a glow of enthusiasm in each face that can only bring a beautiful future to us all. It is not the setting sun that shines in our faces, but the rising sun. It is the morning sun that causes our faces to glow with joy and happiness. The morning of a bright, eternal day. What a glorious future for our family these gatherings are, just the beginning of a long acquaintance.





Friends, my dream is not of the night, but a day dream, but more than a dream it is a vision. For I can see Father Benjamin and Mother Katharine with all the family about them standing before the Lamb of God casting our bright crowns before him. It comes to me that it is great to be a Nye. It is noble and grand to be of the house and lineage of Benjamin and Katharine, and I am sure that the world will be a better world for the Nyes dwelling in it. It is truly up to us to bring the family to a high standard. Long life to the memory of Benjamin and Katharine, long life to the memory of the Nyes of this generation.

Mr. William F. Nye of New Bedford, who is eighty-five years old, recited from memory "Cato on the Immortality of the Soul," learned when a boy in school.

A letter was read by the Secretary on the Vermont Nyes, written by Miss Sarah L. Davis of Greensboro Bend, Vt. :

I had much rather be with you, my second cousins, than trying to write to interest you.

I know very little about my mother's relatives; can go back no farther than my grandfather, Solomon Nye, who came from Hartford, Conn., with his wife and young children, and settled in Berlin, Vt., where he resided till his death, at the age of 94 years. He died in March, 1857.

When he was 16 years of age he enlisted in the Revolutionary war and went as a teamster, driving a yoke of oxen which carried artillery. I think he remained till the close of the war. Having to wade rivers and sleep on the ground he contracted rheumatism, which settled in his back, never being able to stand upright while he lived.

He married Lois Fuller of Hartford, Conn., five children were born to them, four daughters and one son.

The son, Solomon Nye, Jr., married Almira Camp. They had born to them three daughters and two sons.

Horatio Nye, Solomon Nye, Jr.'s son, left three daughters and one son. This son, Van Nye, whose home is in Burlington, is probably with you at this time.



The sisters I know so little about can give you no correct history of them.

My mother, Sally Nye, one of the daughters of Solomon Nye, Sr., married Jacob Davis of Berlin. They had seven children, Caroline M., Clarissa W., Eliza A., Solomon Nye, Mahalon Ezra, Sarah L. and William H. H.

Caroline married Edward Moore, their home being in Calais, Vt. Both are dead; left two sons, Mahalon Edward, living in Danville, and A. Clifton, whose home is in Calais, at the old homestead.

Clarissa married James F. Taylor of Montpelier; both dead. They left one daughter and one son Frank. The son married Emily French; lives in Glover, Vt. The daughter married Fred H. Fullington of Cambridge, Vt., their home is in East Cambridge, Vt. They have one son Earl and one daughter, Stella Fullington Hill.

Eliza A. married Harley Gove of Montpelier, both being dead. He was a soldier in the Civil war. They left one son, Leonard Gove, living in Gilsum, N. H. Mahalon E. married Jennie Smith of Williamstown.

He was a Colonel in the Civil war, settled afterwards in Texas, holding a government position in the Freedmen's Bureau. He died in '87, leaving a widow and three daughters. All are living in Houston, Tex., excepting the youngest daughter, who married Harry Hervey and lives in Mobile, Ala. Solomon Nye Davis married Lizzie Patch of Johnson, and lives in Greensboro Bend; no children. Sarah L., your humble servant, still unmarried, also lives in Greensboro Bend. William H. H. married Jennie Alley of Maine, resides in East Hardwick, Vt., no children.

Solomon and William were also soldiers in the Civil war.

The other children of Solomon Nye, Sr., I know nothing about but most of the grandchildren settled in Grand Rapids, Mich., all being dead; two great-grandchildren are still living in that place, Hattie Dole Johnston and her sister Lois, also two great-grandchildren, Mrs. May Fulmer and Miss Nellie Rogers, sisters.

There is still another family in Grand Rapids which I had forgotten; they are also great-grandchildren, Mr. Chaney Rog-

The first of these is the fact that the  
the second is the fact that the  
the third is the fact that the  
the fourth is the fact that the  
the fifth is the fact that the  
the sixth is the fact that the  
the seventh is the fact that the  
the eighth is the fact that the  
the ninth is the fact that the  
the tenth is the fact that the  
the eleventh is the fact that the  
the twelfth is the fact that the  
the thirteenth is the fact that the  
the fourteenth is the fact that the  
the fifteenth is the fact that the  
the sixteenth is the fact that the  
the seventeenth is the fact that the  
the eighteenth is the fact that the  
the nineteenth is the fact that the  
the twentieth is the fact that the  
the twenty-first is the fact that the  
the twenty-second is the fact that the  
the twenty-third is the fact that the  
the twenty-fourth is the fact that the  
the twenty-fifth is the fact that the  
the twenty-sixth is the fact that the  
the twenty-seventh is the fact that the  
the twenty-eighth is the fact that the  
the twenty-ninth is the fact that the  
the thirtieth is the fact that the  
the thirty-first is the fact that the  
the thirty-second is the fact that the  
the thirty-third is the fact that the  
the thirty-fourth is the fact that the  
the thirty-fifth is the fact that the  
the thirty-sixth is the fact that the  
the thirty-seventh is the fact that the  
the thirty-eighth is the fact that the  
the thirty-ninth is the fact that the  
the fortieth is the fact that the  
the forty-first is the fact that the  
the forty-second is the fact that the  
the forty-third is the fact that the  
the forty-fourth is the fact that the  
the forty-fifth is the fact that the  
the forty-sixth is the fact that the  
the forty-seventh is the fact that the  
the forty-eighth is the fact that the  
the forty-ninth is the fact that the  
the fiftieth is the fact that the  
the fifty-first is the fact that the  
the fifty-second is the fact that the  
the fifty-third is the fact that the  
the fifty-fourth is the fact that the  
the fifty-fifth is the fact that the  
the fifty-sixth is the fact that the  
the fifty-seventh is the fact that the  
the fifty-eighth is the fact that the  
the fifty-ninth is the fact that the  
the sixtieth is the fact that the  
the sixty-first is the fact that the  
the sixty-second is the fact that the  
the sixty-third is the fact that the  
the sixty-fourth is the fact that the  
the sixty-fifth is the fact that the  
the sixty-sixth is the fact that the  
the sixty-seventh is the fact that the  
the sixty-eighth is the fact that the  
the sixty-ninth is the fact that the  
the seventieth is the fact that the  
the seventy-first is the fact that the  
the seventy-second is the fact that the  
the seventy-third is the fact that the  
the seventy-fourth is the fact that the  
the seventy-fifth is the fact that the  
the seventy-sixth is the fact that the  
the seventy-seventh is the fact that the  
the seventy-eighth is the fact that the  
the seventy-ninth is the fact that the  
the eightieth is the fact that the  
the eighty-first is the fact that the  
the eighty-second is the fact that the  
the eighty-third is the fact that the  
the eighty-fourth is the fact that the  
the eighty-fifth is the fact that the  
the eighty-sixth is the fact that the  
the eighty-seventh is the fact that the  
the eighty-eighth is the fact that the  
the eighty-ninth is the fact that the  
the ninetieth is the fact that the  
the ninety-first is the fact that the  
the ninety-second is the fact that the  
the ninety-third is the fact that the  
the ninety-fourth is the fact that the  
the ninety-fifth is the fact that the  
the ninety-sixth is the fact that the  
the ninety-seventh is the fact that the  
the ninety-eighth is the fact that the  
the ninety-ninth is the fact that the  
the hundredth is the fact that the



ers and Emma Rogers, also one great-grandchild living in Springfield, Mass., Mr. Edward Rogers.

My dear Cousins, this is my limited knowledge of my ancestors, and if you can give me more information I will give you many thanks.

Yours very truly,

SARAH L. DAVIS,

Greensboro Bend, Vt.

July, 1909.

The meeting then adjourned until August 5 at 9.30 a. m.

The morning session was opened with an organ voluntary by Mrs. Butler and prayer by Rev. E. I. Nye.

Then followed a chorus by the Highgate Centre choir. The secretary's report was read and approved. The treasurer's report was then given :

Nye Family of America Association in account with Annie Nye Smith, Treasurer.

Littleton, Aug. 1, 1909.

Receipts to date,	\$211 50
Cash on hand Aug. 1, 1908,	111 56
	<hr/>
	\$323 06
Expenses to date,	207 78
	<hr/>
On hand Aug. 1, 1909,	\$115 28

Mrs. H. A. Belcher reported in behalf of the committee on the Benj. Nye Memorial. She said when the committee reported at the re-union in 1908 that the sum sufficient to pay for the erection of the stone and grading the lot upon which it stands had been raised, and that there was \$29 still in the hands of the committee, they asked that the sum of \$71 be raised to add to the \$29 to



make a perpetual fund of \$100. This fund to be placed with the town of Sandwich, the interest to be used in the care of the lot. At that time the sum of \$29 was increased to \$52. She said that \$48 was needed to make the sum of \$100, and asked for further contributions.

Mr. H. A. Belcher, chairman of Nominating Committee, reported as follows, and moved that the secretary be instructed to cast one ballot for their election :

President, Mr. William L. Nye, Sandwich.

Vice-President, Mr. James W. Nye of Marietta, O.

Secretary, Mrs. Jerome R. Holway of Sandwich, Mass.

Treasurer, Mrs. Annie Nye Smith of Littleton Common, Mass.

Registrar, Mr. Robert W. Thompson of Middletown, Ct.

#### Executive Committee.

Mrs. H. A. Belcher, Randolph, Mass. ; J. Edwin Nye, Auburn, Me. ; William F. Nye, New Bedford, Mass. ; E. I. Nye, Wellfleet, Mass. ; George H. Nye, Auburn, N. Y. ; Miss Abbie F. Nye, Sandwich, Mass. ; Rev. E. I. Nye, Georgia, Vt. ; Lynford O. Nye, Highgate Centre, Vt. ; William G. Nye, North Montpelier, Vt. ; T. Wilson Nye, Salem, Mass.

In accepting the position of president Mr. Nye said :

#### *Friends! Kinsmen!*

I would thank you for the honor you conferred upon me, for I deem it an honor to be chosen president of the Nye Family Association of America.

Six years have passed since the association was organized, and may it continue to grow and flourish in the future; and I would ask of you, the younger members of the Family, that you interest yourselves in its welfare by becoming active members and do what you can for its best interests.



Each year you read the names of those who have passed away ! It is their places you must fill, their duties perform.

Let us remember we are members of one family. There is a tie that binds us together. Call it by what name you may. It is not love for we are hardly acquainted. Nor can you call it respect : that is too cold a term. It must be the tie of kinship. The blood of our ancestors flows through all our veins.

It is a long way from Cape Cod to Highgate and a long way from Highgate to Cape Cod. Yet these happy gatherings and cordial greetings shorten the space that divides and draw us nearer together.

I think I can safely say the session next year will be held in old Sandwich, the home of your ancestor. May you all meet with us there and I can assure you we will try and make the occasion a pleasant, profitable one.

Though we may not all meet again, yet I know we will all cherish pleasant memories of this the sixth re-union at Highgate Centre, Vt.

Mrs. Belcher moved that the secretary be instructed to send a telegram of greeting to Mr. James W. Nye of Marietta, Ohio, and inform him of his election as vice-president of the association, and the following telegram was sent :

*Mr. James W. Nye,  
170 Front St.,  
Marietta, Ohio.*

Greetings from Nye Family. Congratulations to you as our next Vice-President.

ANNIE NYE SMITH, Secretary.

Highgate, Vt., Aug. 5, '09.

Miss Abbie F. Nye of Sandwich moved that a committee of three on Memorials be appointed. Motion carried and the following were named by the President: Miss Abbie Nye of Sand-





wich, Mass., Mr. Benjamin A. Hathaway of Plymouth and Mr. Everett I. Nye of Wellfleet, Mass.

Mr. H. A. Belcher moved that the time, place and details of the next Re-union be left in the hands of the Executive Committee. Motion carried.

The audience was then favored with recitations by Miss Mary Nye of Johnson, Vt., Ralph and Sarah Nye of Cambridge, Vt., after which a most interesting paper was given by Mr. Harold Marsh of Sheldon, Vt., as follows:

Once every year for the past six years, members of the Nye family have met to celebrate the fact that each is a member of so distinguished a family. This, however, is the first opportunity that the members from Vermont have had the pleasure of entertaining our outside relatives; strangers though we are to each other, yet we are joined by a common blood, which, trickling through our veins unites us by a bond which only death can sever. We from Vermont regret that death has taken from our midst one whose memory is and always will be dear to each of us. Nelson Nye was a man of noble character, honest business principles, fearless integrity, and sublime disposition. He was a man whose strength of character ennobled each one of us for having come in contact with him.

To endeavor to persuade each one of you that Vermont is the best and most desirable state in the Union, would be useless. However, we are proud of her elegant summer resorts, her fertile farms, and her natural products. We cannot boast of large cities or great commercial centers; neither are we cursed by the abominable abuses known in the congested districts of large cities. Here in Vermont, where the population is mostly rural, it may be said that we know nothing of the sufferings of the submerged tenth. We cannot boast of good harbors or navigable rivers, but we are proud of our brooks and rivulets with the overhanging evergreens where nature has had ample opportunity to paint pictures tinged with all the colors.

Vermont enjoys in many respects the best of New England

The first of these is the fact that the  
 second of these is the fact that the  
 third of these is the fact that the  
 fourth of these is the fact that the  
 fifth of these is the fact that the  
 sixth of these is the fact that the  
 seventh of these is the fact that the  
 eighth of these is the fact that the  
 ninth of these is the fact that the  
 tenth of these is the fact that the

The first of these is the fact that the  
 second of these is the fact that the  
 third of these is the fact that the  
 fourth of these is the fact that the  
 fifth of these is the fact that the  
 sixth of these is the fact that the  
 seventh of these is the fact that the  
 eighth of these is the fact that the  
 ninth of these is the fact that the  
 tenth of these is the fact that the  
 eleventh of these is the fact that the  
 twelfth of these is the fact that the  
 thirteenth of these is the fact that the  
 fourteenth of these is the fact that the  
 fifteenth of these is the fact that the  
 sixteenth of these is the fact that the  
 seventeenth of these is the fact that the  
 eighteenth of these is the fact that the  
 nineteenth of these is the fact that the  
 twentieth of these is the fact that the

The first of these is the fact that the  
 second of these is the fact that the  
 third of these is the fact that the  
 fourth of these is the fact that the  
 fifth of these is the fact that the  
 sixth of these is the fact that the  
 seventh of these is the fact that the  
 eighth of these is the fact that the  
 ninth of these is the fact that the  
 tenth of these is the fact that the  
 eleventh of these is the fact that the  
 twelfth of these is the fact that the  
 thirteenth of these is the fact that the  
 fourteenth of these is the fact that the  
 fifteenth of these is the fact that the  
 sixteenth of these is the fact that the  
 seventeenth of these is the fact that the  
 eighteenth of these is the fact that the  
 nineteenth of these is the fact that the  
 twentieth of these is the fact that the  
 twenty-first of these is the fact that the  
 twenty-second of these is the fact that the  
 twenty-third of these is the fact that the  
 twenty-fourth of these is the fact that the  
 twenty-fifth of these is the fact that the  
 twenty-sixth of these is the fact that the  
 twenty-seventh of these is the fact that the  
 twenty-eighth of these is the fact that the  
 twenty-ninth of these is the fact that the  
 thirtieth of these is the fact that the

climates. Its summers are not excelled anywhere in the land for the opportunities they afford for outdoor recreation. Vermont is void of the extreme heat of the semi-tropical parts of the country and the scorching glare or suffocating humidity of the large cities, that every year swell a ghastly death list. The springs are beautiful, as only nature can be beautiful, when she is busy awakening a region, everywhere famed for its peculiarly charming verdure, into renewed life and growth after a winter's sleep. The autumns with the bounty of generous season converging into abundant fruit, making one of the most spectacular pastoral scenes in all America, are a succession of long dreamy days of luxurious comfort, when the great full year is slowly ripening.

Vermont is a beautiful state to live in. There are no climatic diseases, no malaria infested region; she enjoys throughout, a remarkable equability of climate. Her people dwell in a land of varied scenic beauty everywhere restful and inspiring. Her soil is fertile and famines are unknown. Her food crops and dainty fruits are raised in the most favored belt near the late frost line where they may mature and mellow with the garnered sunshine of long summers and pleasant autumns.

Of the cities of Vermont, Burlington, the Queen City, is the largest and most beautiful. It is universally conceded that for beauty and scenery it ranks among the first of New England cities. Its unique beauty consists in the grouping of the elements of nature; its crescent bay with headlands at either horn, opening into a water view ten miles across and fifty miles from right to left; its gentle slope from the harbor's edge to the college crowned summit a mile away; its boundary of mountains on both sides with their bold peaks, purple, misty or snow covered, according to the ever varying meteoric conditions and with the help of perspective and atmospheric illusion constituting a circular framework to the picture. In the midst of this loveliness is the large village or small city with wide, well-kept, well-shaded streets, residences unpretending but tasteful, and surrounded by spacious and neatly-cared-for-grounds; a city of homes, churches, benevolent and educational institutions, the abode of a people cultivated, hospitable, not destitute of civic pride and not unaware of their advantages, but ready to concede to the second





place among Vermont villages to any of its neighbors who may claim it.

East of Burlington to Cambridge Junction is the Lamoille valley, shut off on the east by the western spur of the Green Mountains, Mt. Mansfield, guarding the base, like an austere sentinel; while to the west is the Champlain valley. The ever changing view of Mt. Mansfield is one of the most charming panoramas in all New England. Situated in the valley is Fort Ethan Allen, a place made historic by the daring deed of the man after whom it was named. Here Uncle Sam has stationed about 1000 men and as many horses. It is one of the most up-to-date posts in the United States.

In the northwestern part of the state is the Missisquoi valley, situated in Franklin County. The fertility of its soil, the variety and quality of its productions, and the thrift of its people, are equalled by few, and surpassed by none of the people in this section. The eastern part of the valley is broken and rocky, extending up on the western range of the Green Mountains, while the western part is comparatively level and contains some of the finest farming lands in New England. Franklin County is noted for its butter and maple sugar.

The Missisquoi River is the principal water course, while there are several trout brooks and inland lakes, of which Dream Lake in Fairfield, and Silver Lake in Franklin, are the largest, and with Lake Champlain on the west, give a pleasing variety of scenery and afford inviting and ample opportunity for the angler.

Farther south, we reach the Winooski Valley, a rich farming country. Situated in this valley is the town of Stowe, from which Mt. Mansfield, the highest peak of the Green Mountains, is reached. The highest point, the chin, is 4,359 ft. above sea level. It gathers around its base all the eternal solitudes of nature. In the deep forests no sound is to be heard save the whir of the partridge, the tread of a bear, or the crash of a mountain deer as he leaps from crag to crag. On the mountain crest the same quiet prevails, broken now and then by the scream of an eagle or the growl of thunder. The giant who is fabled to sleep beneath the superincumbent mass of Mansfield never wakes. He lends the outlines of his features to the mountain. His voice never breaks the stillness.



Magnificent is the panorama spread out before us. To the east lie the White Mountains and numberless peaks and ranges of lesser fame. To the north can be discerned Mount Royal and Montreal at its foot. To the west the Adirondacks with Lake Champlain spreading her waters for more than one hundred miles bordering western Vermont.

On the eastern border of Vermont serving as a boundary line, the Connecticut River slowly but continuously winds its snakelike path the entire length of the state. Throughout the length of this valley we find happy, industrious and energetic people. Happy, because nature has given them the best she has as a sustenance for life; industrious, because their environment tends to create in them a spirit of untiring toil; energetic, because of their active minds and willing desire to make the best of all the opportunities offered them.

These are only a few of the sights that may be seen by a traveller as he journeys through Vermont. The pictures which nature has painted can be appreciated only by one who has had an opportunity to see them. With pen and paper a person can do but little justice to scenes which are far too vivid and picturesque for a writer to portray. Is it any wonder as the setting sun casts its radiant beams on Lake Champlain, telling of the memorable deeds of her Vermont sons, that we are proud of our native state? Is it any wonder when each year Vermont is becoming better known that we tell of these beautiful and picturesque spots? Even though Vermont is a small state, even though she is not the foremost in the Union, yet we are all proud that we were reared on Vermont soil.

This was followed by an address by William F. Nye of Fairhaven, Mass., who said :

*Mr. Chairman :*

First and foremost I feel that we should express our thanks to the Nyes of Highgate for the very cordial reception they have offered us. I meet with many things in Vermont that rather charm me. I was never so far up in Vermont before. When we



crossed the line at White River Junction and came into this state, I took on an inspiration of the mountain peaks, the grand forests, until my soul was filled with the adoration of the nature of God. It is beautiful all through Vermont. The climate is uplifting. It seems to strengthen one. I have traveled a good deal over this country; even the climate of California does not keep up one's vigor like the climate of Vermont. I will say to my friends and true cousins of the Nye Family that I am indeed glad to be with you.

And now my dear cousins of the Nye Family since it was planned that the Nye Family should meet at Highgate this year, and while I fully intended to be with you, yet the last long cold winter was very trying to my waning life, and for a time, I thought I might ere this have been called to a higher state upon the ever-green shore over the river, however much I wished to meet you in this Green Mountain State. My physical presence here is evidence that I took the train terrestrial, rather than be ferried across by the old boatman. I have come to you in all gladness, which demonstrates one strong characteristic of the Nye Family, that when they will, they find the way.

Pleasant indeed, is the greeting I receive from our newly found cousins at Highgate, and to bring to them the greetings of a great number of their Eastern namesakes in Massachusetts and Ohio, to whom I shall take back with me the story of your fertile fields and forests studded with mountain peaks so grand to look upon, and I am pleased to note that all things appear to be flourishing about you. Your clear mountain air that invites your summer visitors, affords them a serenity that they are deprived of in city life, and it builds you up to the full physical and mental status of the Nyes about New England, away down on Cape Cod in particular and beyond the Alleghanies, where we often meet them, and where for five re-unions we have sized them up, and said of them all the good things we could think of.

Among my early schoolday lessons in history, I remember much that was proudly taught us of the Green Mountain Boys—how courageously they bore their old king's arms in defense of American independence, and that page of Vermont history bore a picture of a troop of militia marching for the defense of some



the first of these is the fact that the  
the second is the fact that the  
the third is the fact that the  
the fourth is the fact that the  
the fifth is the fact that the

the sixth is the fact that the  
the seventh is the fact that the  
the eighth is the fact that the  
the ninth is the fact that the  
the tenth is the fact that the  
the eleventh is the fact that the  
the twelfth is the fact that the  
the thirteenth is the fact that the  
the fourteenth is the fact that the  
the fifteenth is the fact that the

the sixteenth is the fact that the  
the seventeenth is the fact that the  
the eighteenth is the fact that the  
the nineteenth is the fact that the  
the twentieth is the fact that the  
the twenty-first is the fact that the  
the twenty-second is the fact that the  
the twenty-third is the fact that the  
the twenty-fourth is the fact that the  
the twenty-fifth is the fact that the  
the twenty-sixth is the fact that the  
the twenty-seventh is the fact that the  
the twenty-eighth is the fact that the  
the twenty-ninth is the fact that the  
the thirtieth is the fact that the

the thirty-first is the fact that the  
the thirty-second is the fact that the  
the thirty-third is the fact that the  
the thirty-fourth is the fact that the  
the thirty-fifth is the fact that the  
the thirty-sixth is the fact that the  
the thirty-seventh is the fact that the  
the thirty-eighth is the fact that the  
the thirty-ninth is the fact that the  
the fortieth is the fact that the

assailable point. I can well imagine that picture represented Ethan Allen with his eighty-three men who captured Ticonderoga in the name of the Great Jehovah and the Continental Congress, and I have often wondered if some stripling of the Nye Family was not there in that early defense. My grandfather, Thomas Nye, was somewhere along the border, taken prisoner, and escaped from an English stockade through the darkness of night, living on roots and herbs, and reached home somewhat decrepit and feeble.

Those of us who so far attended any or all of the five re-unions of the Nye Family met with a most cordial greeting and that fraternal feeling of good fellowship and hospitality which is ever characteristic of those who bear our name, and it has given all much pleasure to meet so many of the descendants of Benjamin Nye. There is deep satisfaction in studying the origin of our tribe from out the dim and obscure past, and much effort is being now put forth in searching the records of generations far back, and in tracing the characteristics of our progenitors, back beyond our grandsires. Such effort is uplifting, and especially when we may proudly claim some heroic distinction in the line of our ancestry. We cannot fully appreciate in this, our day of peace and plenty, and of luxurious surroundings, that even monarchs of old never dreamed of the heroism of our early sires who broke away from their overburdened lives and from exacting rulers that maintained the divine right of kings to face the struggle of crossing the sea, and planted themselves upon the soil of a new world.

It was even daring and brave, that the stripling Benjamin Nye bid adieu to his youthful pleasures and doubtless amid the regrets and sorrows of those dearest to him, sailed away from his native shores. And just here we may exclaim "Roll Backward, Oh! Time," and let us watch the divinity that shaped his young life, of which we to-day are but a part. Amid all the discomforts of that storm-bound passage he met his Evangel, who with her father came over on the same ship to the new world under the auspices of the Crown of England to teach divinity to the aborigines, and we soon find him irresistibly drawn to Katharine Tupper, where her father was building his home on the borders of a wide stretch of primeval woodland, through which the murmur-



ing breezes join with the ever sounding waves that laved the ocean shore, and thus did their love-song accord with nature's grandest anthem.

That old home is still there by the public roadside, a shrine for the Nye Family of America, that when they visit the dear old Town of Sandwich, they may link the present with the past.

A native born that I am of the old Town, and having since our re-unions first took place there, gathered much of the early history of those who so early possessed the land, that I feel I am not far removed from a *great*, great-grandson of Benjamin Nye, for in my grandfather's home, but ten miles distant, I was born, and that old home is almost a replica of Father Tupper's, and thus I may claim a nearer kindred to Benjamin—and further, in my boyhood I often joined in the hunt over the same Indian pathways through that still existing stretch of eighteen miles of unbroken woodland (traces of which still exist) that hunters still follow, and where Benjamin and his sons doubtless often hunted the abundant game.

Benjamin Nye was a man of firm and stable character, doubtless influenced in a measure by the sacred calling of his father-in-law, and his more than ordinary abilities were recognized, as he was looked up to by all composing that early community. His sons closely followed in the integrity of the father, and early took out a grant from Governor Winslow of 1,000 acres of land about twelve miles from their home on the shores of Buzzards Bay, which tract is still known as "Wicker-Kee Field" in North Falmouth. These sons and their branches spread out in the order we have arranged them on the map I have brought along with me, and it may safely be said that that community of Nyes in the Town of Falmouth were the most stable community on earth, all self-sustaining, and generations followed each other in peace, plenty and progress. In my early boyhood I used to think that this Nye neighborhood of North Falmouth was the center of the universe, and that most of the people on earth must be Nyes, as the town was all Nyes almost without exception.

And now my dear cousins, not to take up too much of your time, I wish to further extend to you my heartfelt greetings, and to leave you my benediction, and with all the sincerity that ever Joe Jefferson clothed his one unique toast, "May you live long and prosper."





Your little State is stalwart and strong, ever full of noble patriotism and progress that sustains the prestige of New England in the galaxy of states, often first and foremost as she was in first claiming her place with the original thirteen in 1791, and ever able to repel Canadian and Fenian raids against their assaults upon your soil.

If I may be allowed a word to the younger members of the Nye Family, let me say to them have faith in the superiority of right over wrong and in your laudable ambitions to do for yourselves, remember the other fellow. Let this be your perspective in life, it may make your history humble, but others will record it while you live. You may find in this, that real happiness consists not in wealth or power, but in respect and affection of all about you, and *ever* keep in mind that industry, economy and frugality lead to competency, comfort and happiness, then your days will be made glad with the commendation, Well Done.

Then came an address by Mr. W. C. Nye of Washington, Vt. :

I am not so small that I need a tree to climb into, but I can say, cousins, that it is one of the greatest pleasures of my life to be with you to-day. I am glad that I am a Nye, and a cousin. As I have wended my way to old Massachusetts Bay, I have been in company with cousins that I did not suppose I had. I have connected myself with you beyond a doubt, and I am glad to be with you to-day. I would still further say that I am a Vermonter, and live in the old Green Mountain state, so grand and helpful! And as I am here before you to-day, and as I have wended my way over this vast country, through the Rocky Mountains and Sierra Nevadas to the ocean, I have wondered what is it that holds this immense body. What is it this vast body stands on? Many will tell us it is the attraction of the sun for the earth.

Now is there a divine power that holds this vast world and keeps it in its place, or is this a chance world? Not by any means. Let us think that God is the divine power that holds the world. That this earth stands upon his shoulders, and as we travel over this earth, it is plain to be seen there are Nyes in all parts. That the country is surrounded by them. We find in all states we can shake the hand of a Nye. I registered at a hotel in Kansas City once, and two men came up and asked me if my name was Nye.



Their names were Nye, and they were one of you. As I went on to Los Angeles, I find Nyes, second cousins of mine, that I did not know of. I have never seen a Nye, save one, that I was ashamed of. I am proud to be here, that my name is Nye; proud to be a descendant of Benjamin Nye, and your cousin, although you may not be proud to own me. I am here, and hope as long as I live I shall have the chance to meet you year after year wherever this reunion may meet. I will read a line on the Daniel Nye branch, he being my grandfather:

*My dear Cousins:*

Another year has rolled around and brought a goodly number of us together to commemorate the ancestry of our fathers and grandfathers even to the eighth, ninth and tenth generation, until we reach the first generation of him who first trod American soil, Benjamin Nye, who, in the Abigail, sailed the mighty waters of the broad Atlantic and landed at Lynn, Mass., in 1635, two hundred and seventy-four years ago, and there on American soil established the worthy name of Nye, which has not been obliterated to the present day, but rather grows and spreads as time and enterprise are developing in our vast domain, and may the name of Benjamin and Katharine be remembered by us and handed down to our children and children's children as honored and sacred names of those who toiled for us and ours.

I have been asked by your worthy committee to give you a sketch of the Daniel Nye branch who was of the fifth generation. Daniel Nye was born in Tolland, Ct., January 8th, 1758. He was the son of John and grandson of Ebenezer, great-grandson of Caleb and great-great-grandson of Benjamin. He married Nov. 18th, 1785, Lydia Howe of Sudbury, Mass. Of this marriage six children were born, all boys, three of whom died in early life, all three dying in one week of scarlet fever.

Immediately after their marriage they came to Norwich, Vt., on an ox sled, with only two chairs, an old table and a few utensils for cooking, and there among the wilds of their new home and listening to the howl of the wolf and panther, they felled the trees and subdued the forest and made themselves a home long honored



and kept by them, and today a grandson of his, Albert Nye, is living in the same domicile which was built by Daniel Nye. In 1786 Chester Nye, his son, was born, and Feb. 18, 1809, he was married to Mercy Lyscomb of Hartland, Vt. Of this marriage four children were born. Calista, born in Barre, Vt., in 1813, and died in Boston, Mass., March 25, 1878, unmarried. Daniel, born Nov. 19, 1816. He married Feb. 20, 1845, Fannie Finley Hayward. They lived in Acworth, N. H., where he died Feb. 9, 1892. They had five children—Chester L., Jacob H., Daniel F., Charles G. and Samuel A.

Flavel J. Nye, my father, was born at Norwich, Vt., Dec. 23, 1790, married Feb. 22, 1816, to Aurelia Catlin of Hartland, Vt. Of this marriage eight children were born. Lydia, born Nov. 12, 1816, married Oct. 10, 1844, to William Winch of Northfield, who had six children born to them, George W., born Aug. 3, 1845, and is now a minister of the Gospel and is preaching in Barre, Vt. He is married and has one son, William, who is practicing law at Barre, Vt. Maynard C., born Aug. 18, 1847, married to Melinda Bradford, who died in the winter of 1907. They had two children, Arthur, who married a Miss Goodrich, and they have one son. John F., who lives in Northfield, Vt., and is a practicing physician. He married Ella Sylvester and has one son, Cecil. Susan E., born Jan. 30, 1851, and died four or five years ago, married to Hosea Carpenter and they have one son, Arthur, who is married. Wallace F., born in 1853, died when about twenty years of age. Samuel W. married Miss Sylvester who died in 1885, who had two girls born to them, both married and have children and one died in infancy.

George R. Nye, born Mar. 13, 1819, died at Hull, Wisconsin, June 22, 1867, married Cynthia Fisher Sept. 5, 1850, who died Mar. 28, 1854; they had one child born who died in infancy.

Laura Ann, born Nov. 17th, 1820, and is now living in Washington, Vt., hale and hearty, 89 years old. She married 1842 Leonard Flint, who died several years ago. They had three children, Sarah C., who married Rodney Seaver of Williamstown, Vt., and had one child Aurelia, married J. B. Seaver of Washington and they had three children. Almarty, born Apr. 2, 1823, died 1901, not married. Samuel H., born Aug. 6, 1826,





married first, Marion Hewett, who died 1902, one son, William W., born to them, he lives at East Barre and is married and has three children, all girls. His second wife was Widow Scott; he died 1885.

Martha E., married Ezra D. Balch, Jan. 1st, 1850, and died 1867 leaving two boys and three girls all of whom are married; her second husband was Amos Plastridge. She died 1902. W. C. Nye, born at Orange, Vt., June 2, 1838, married first Nancy B. Abbott of Barre, Vt., Oct. 28, 1862, who died in Nov. 1885; they had three children, Arthur W., born Sept. 20, 1864, and married Jennie Hill and have one child Grace 19 years of age; they reside at Pasadena, Cal. May W., born May 23, 1869, married E. T. Swift, they have two boys, Roy W., 20 years of age and Willie R., 17 years old, they live at Corinth, Vt. Geo. Samuel, born Nov. 26, 1876, married Katherine Smith and reside at East Barre. Mr. Nye's second wife was Mrs. Lydia D. Smith of Northfield, Vt., married Sept. 16, 1886 and who died Nov. 20, 1896, and his third marriage was with Julia A. Partridge of Potsdam, N. Y., Sept. 1st, 1897, who is living now at Washington, Vt.

Wallace W., born at Orange, Vt., Nov. 6, 1839, and died May 13, 1842.

Samuel H., son of Daniel, born Dec. 1, 1799, and was supposed to be murdered in Champlain woods in March, 1845, as his remains were found there the following October. He was married first to Mary Marium Dec. 8, 1823, and died Nov., 1829; they had two children, Henry and Gustavus. His second marriage was with Hannah Lord Jan. 15, 1832; they had four boys and two girls.

I will now return to Daniel, who made his first home in Norwich, Vt., lived there until about 1821 or 2, when he moved to Barre, Vt., and lived there six years, then moved back to Norwich on his old farm, where he and his wife both died in 1845, at the advanced age of 86 and 88 years, and are buried in Norwich, Vt., side by side, under the spreading branches of a large pine.

And now let me say a word in praise of old Vermont, the state you have so worthily honored by coming to celebrate the fathers of our name.



The surface as you have seen is very diversified and varied by high mountains, which raise their heads so majestically to the heavens above. The gentle hill-slopes and beautiful picturesque valleys, where farmers have selected and many a Nye family has settled and made it their home. And first among the mountains stands old Camel's Hump, which lies a little west of the center of the state and rears its rocky head and gray old crest nearly 5,000 feet above the sea, it being the highest in the state except Mt. Mansfield, which is a few feet higher. It is the best defined and most conspicuous peak of the Green Mountains. It can be seen from nearly all over the state and as you pass south from here over the Central Vermont beyond Essex Junction you can view it on the right, or if you go on the Rutland Division you can view its mighty altitude on the left. It is accessible to climb only in a few places, yet every summer thousands climb its rugged and rock-bound sides to the summit above to witness the glories of the surrounding country.

The scenery and beauty are unsurpassed and amply pay the tourist for his labors in making the ascent. Other heights from which magnificent views are obtained are old Ascutney, which you can view after leaving Windsor on the right, or south of Rutland on the left which raise their heads nearly 5,000 feet above old ocean. Our rivers are numerous but small, abounding well with the speckled finny tribe which are sought by many who come from sister state cities to our genial state for health, pleasure and beautiful scenery. Vermont is fortunate in having a clear, cool, bracing atmosphere, and is classed as one of the healthiest states in the Union, but like other northern localities it is subject to extremes of heat and cold. Snow sufficient for sleighing often falls in November and remains until the following April. In 1846 snow fell to the depth of nine feet. In 1887 it was twelve feet, two inches. The least depth was in 1877 with only five feet, eight inches. The greatest depth in 1875 when snow fell twelve feet, seven inches. Our warmest day for many years was Aug. 21, 1884, when the thermometer registered 101° in shade. The coldest days were Dec. 25, 1872, Jan. 6, 1884, and Jan. 19, 1877, when it registered 42° below. This beautiful state you are now visiting with us to see and witness where our sturdy forefathers





have wrought and toiled and kept the name of Nye well perpetuated where today I for one welcome you to renew our acquaintance and to lay aside our many toils to remember those who have gone before us. And may each one of us see that our children are kept from the vices that surround our door today so that as they grow older we shall not have to look back on mis-spent days when they were in their youth but rather may they be trained in the path of virtue and integrity and become worthy men and women to carry down with them the name of Nye and as we meet year after year may we learn to know each other better.

The Secretary then read the following letter from the Governor of Vermont :

NEWPORT, Vt., Aug. 2, 1909.

Mr. B. F. Nye,

Highgate Centre, Vt.

*Dear Sir :*

I am in receipt of yours of the 27th, asking that I be present at a re-union of the Nye Family at Highgate Centre August 4, 5 and 6. I am very sorry to say that I cannot possibly be with you much as I should enjoy it. I have an engagement on the 4th and 5th, and this would not permit of my being there on the 6th, therefore I shall have to forego the pleasure. I trust you may have a very pleasant and profitable time as I am sure you will.

With kindest regards I remain

Yours very truly,

G. H. PROUTY,

Governor of Vermont.

Mr. Belcher then moved a vote of thanks to the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Chairman of Executive Committee for their untiring work for the association. Motion carried.



Mr. Lynford Nye then said :

In behalf of the grandchildren of Nelson Nye, I invite the Family to a reception at my home on Friday evening and I hope that all will be present.

The meeting then adjourned to 3 p. m.

The social feature of the afternoon meeting was a Vermont "Sugaring-off," when the visitors were given the opportunity of seeing just how "Vermont pure maple sugar" was made. This treat was given by Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Nye of Johnson, who spared no pains to make the "sugaring-off" as realistic and enjoyable as possible. They provided a "real" arch, where the syrup was boiled, and as each dish was served the guests were given a wooden paddle with which to eat the sweets, the paddles also serving as an appropriate souvenir of the occasion. A paper on "Sugaring Off" was read by Mrs. W. H. Nye.

The evening session was opened with an Organ Voluntary by Mrs. Butler.

The first number on the program was a vocal solo by Mr. William W. Nye of Keene, N. H., and those who were fortunate enough to hear him will never forget the full rich tones of his fine voice as he sang song after song. Mr. Nye's father is an aged man who was greatly interested in this gathering, and as he could not be present, the son came in his place.

The Secretary then read the following telegrams :

*Lee, Mass.,*

*To President of Nye Family.*

Congratulations and best of everything for you all. Great regret that we cannot be with you on this enjoyable occasion.

MR. AND MRS. W. L. NYE.

Aug. 6, 1909.



*Auburn, N. Y.,*

*To Benj. F. Nye,*

*Highgate Centre, Vt.*

Regret inability to be with you, best wishes for an enjoyable time for all fortunate enough to be present.

GEORGE H. NYE.

Aug. 5, '09.

*Marietta, Ohio,*

*To Mrs. Annie Nye Smith,*

*Highgate, Vt.*

Cordially acknowledge and accepting the honor, I extend warmest greetings from all Marietta cousins.

JAMES W. NYE.

Aug. 6, '09.

And a letter from Caroline W. Robinson of Milton, Vt.

Mr. Belcher then said :

*Mr. Chairman :*

I move that the thanks of this association be tendered to the people of Highgate Centre for their very generous hospitality, to the church committee for the use of this church, to the members of the Nye Family in Highgate Centre for their efforts which have made this Reunion a success, also to those who have contributed in any way by song or speech for our entertainment during our stay in Highgate Centre.

Mr. E. I. Nye of Wellfleet said :

The treatment we have received from the people of Highgate Centre has been most royal and I am pleased to second Mr. Belcher's motion.

This motion was carried unanimously.





Mr. W. G. Nye of North Montpelier, Vt., said :

A thought occurred to me, as our sister from Massachusetts showed us the condition of the fund for the perpetual care of the Memorial, erected last year in Sandwich, that the proper time to raise the remaining \$40 is now. I would like to start the subscription with \$5.00.

The Chairman said :

If there are any here who would like to contribute, the Treasurer is ready to take the money any time before to-morrow night. Much has been said about the membership of the association. About thirty have joined since we came to Highgate. That is the one way we have of paying the expenses of the association. The income is not large, and our expenses are not ; however, last year we did not have money enough to publish the books ; these books should be published each year. I hope all will feel interested enough to join this association.

The report of the committee on Memorials was read by Miss Abbie F. Nye as follows :

At each succeeding meeting since its first re-union the Nye Family of America has been called upon to chronicle the death of some of its beloved members and the bereavement of others, through the loss of those they held most dear. The same sad duty rests upon the association at the present time, and its tenderest sympathy is extended to Mr. James L. Wesson, vice-president of the association, and to his family for the loss of a beloved wife and mother. To Mrs. Wesson's active interest much of the success of the several re-unions has been due, and her cordial assistance, together with the charm of her gracious personality, will be sadly missed.

To the widow of Gen. George H. Nye, Roxbury, Mass., who must walk henceforth without the strong arm, her support in the years that have passed, the strong right arm so valiantly raised in defence of his country on many a battlefield of the Civil war.

To Mr. James W. Nye, to Miss Mary C. Nye and to Mrs. Maria Nye Buell, all of Marietta, Ohio, who mourn for a dear sister, Mrs. Sarah Nye Lovell, whose unusual gifts of both mind



and character endeared her in an especial degree to kindred and friends.

To Dr. Helen E. Curtis, Marietta, Ohio, bereaved of her husband, Dr. Harry N. Curtis, and left to carry on alone the life-work to which they had both been devoted.

To Mr. and Mrs. Franklin E. Smith of Newton, Mass., and to Mr. and Mrs. Horace Nye, Fairhaven, Mass., for the loss of a devoted mother, Mrs. Alfred Nye of Fairhaven, Mass.

To Mr. Southworth H. Nye and family of Dennis, Mass., for the death of a loving wife and mother, whose cheerful patience through years of weakness and suffering, makes her memory doubly dear.

To the daughter of Mr. S. Buel Nye for the loss of her father, a veteran of the Civil war, who died at the Soldiers' Home, Noroton Heights, Conn.

To Mr. Alfred Crocker, Mr. Loring Crocker and to Miss Alice Crocker, Barnstable, Mass., who grieve for the death of a brother, Mr. Franklin Crocker, Hyannis, Mass.

To Mr. Nelson R. Nye, Leavenworth, Kansas, left to mourn the companionship of a loved wife, and to his family, who grieve for a fond mother.

To Mrs. Thomas S. Nye, Attleboro, Mass., for the death of her husband.

To Mr. Thornton Nye, Wytherville, Va., for the loss of his father, Dr. George L. Nye.

The Nye Family of America holds all of these sorrowing relatives in close remembrance, and prays that the kind Father of us all may bring them consolation.

This report was accepted and ordered to be spread upon the records and a copy sent to each family bereaved.

A solo was then finely rendered by Miss Eva Sanderson of Newton, Mass., which was followed by an interesting paper by Mrs. H. A. Belcher :

*Mr. President, Nye Family of America :*

I have been asked to speak to you on the thoughts which led to





the organization of the Nye Family of America, to this meeting of the family, and to those which have preceded this. As I have already told this and as it is in printed form, I do not know that I can add much to what has been said that will be of interest to you. I am going to digress for a few moments from the subject you have given me and tell you of one thing, among many, which this organization has accomplished. To those who have never been in Sandwich, I want to say that my native town is one of the most beautiful in this country, and a fine representative of the Plymouth colony of which our ancestor was one of the early settlers. If you were to walk down the Main street you would see at your right hand a small triangular plot of ground with a nicely kept lawn, rising from the center of which is a grand old boulder eight feet in height and five feet across; this in its original resting place in the forest has withstood the brunt of the storms and the sunshine for centuries. This boulder was brought here, erected and dedicated at the family reunion last year, by the contributions of the Family, but largely through the generosity of one of our oldest and staunchest members, Mr. William F. Nye of Fairhaven, Mass. This boulder we believe is a most appropriate memorial to the sturdy character of our ancestor Benjamin Nye. And the spot upon which it stands under the drooping branches of several magnificent elm trees is beautiful indeed. And this in itself is a fitting memorial to the character of Katharine Tupper his wife. No spot could have been chosen which is more fitting to keep alive their memories than this. Along one side of the plot was the old Indian trail leading to the home of Katharine, and along which she and Benjamin must have wandered many times. In sight from this was the grist mill in which in after years our ancestor ground the corn of his neighbors. Upon the side of the boulder, facing the street is an oak wreath, the symbol of the family, made of bronze, enclosing the letter N; beneath this is a large tablet also of bronze with an oak wreath border on which is inscribed these words, Erected by the Nye Family of America to the Memory of their ancestors Benjamin Nye and Katharine Tupper his wife, with the dates 1635-1908, and beneath this, this legend: "We best serve the interest of posterity by treasuring the memories of our ancestors."



Such thoughts as this must have been in the minds of those who formulated the plans for the formation of this association and carried them to completion. For we must all of us not only as individuals, but as descendants of one of the old settlers of the Plymouth Colony, feel a just pride which belongs to those who trace back their ancestors to one of them. In these days when organization means so much, and so great results can be accomplished by it, the few who were instrumental in starting this family association felt that if we were to keep alive this family pride, and make its influence felt in the younger generations, that only by bringing together all of those who in any way represented the family could this be accomplished. They paved the way, it is for you to continue the work.

I have given you at some length this description of the memorial as an evidence that as an association we have accomplished something. And if we are to carry out the aims of our association, which is only one of the many in New England similar to ours, we have much more work ahead of us, if we intend to make our influence felt in the America of to-day.

This and the other memorials which have been erected in the older towns of New England, do not commemorate the memories of great men, as we judge great men of to-day, but each has left the record of a virtuous, honest and faithful life. It was through the influence of their sturdy characters, honesty of purpose and patriotic impulses, that they laid the foundation, and their immediate descendants guided the fate of this nation as it grew from the shores of Massachusetts Bay to our uttermost Western boundary and made it the greatest nation of modern times. For in the great progress we have made in intellectual and industrial greatness, if we turn back the pages of its history it brings us to the work and influence of these men, among whom was our ancestor, whose memory we honor to-day, who brought to these inhospitable Cape Cod shores ideas of civil and religious liberty, and also those habits of thrift and prudence, the results of which are in evidence all through this country to-day.

We may not go beyond the limits of the town of Sandwich in the early years of the 17th century, with its few score of inhabitants, and if we compare the then and now we find the beginnings



there. Then we find rising from the green of the forest trees the little church spire, and now we find beautiful churches and magnificent cathedrals of every sect scattered through the length and breadth of our land. Then along side of the church was the schoolhouse, where the few children of the settlers were given instruction in the rudiments of education.

Now we find in every town and city the finest of schools, homes, teaching our own and the children of every nation, who have since come to our shores, to become good American citizens; also the splendid colleges and seats of learning to instruct those upon whom depends the future prosperity and safety of our country.

Then the little fulling mill of our ancestor, now the great mills of our own manufacturing centre wearing the cloth for our many millions of inhabitants. Then the grist mill grinding corn for its neighbors. Now the magnificent flouring mills employing millions of capital and supplying the world. In fact nearly all of the great industries, which have added so much to our wealth and prosperity as a nation, and the seats of learning which make our influence felt abroad as well as at home, are but the carrying out and bringing to perfection ideas brought here by our ancestors and established by them.

"It is our joy, that we are descended from ancestors whose names are connected with every Christian, civil and social virtue." We are indeed indebted to the past, and the lesson of to-day is one of gratitude; we are the heirs of a rich and wondrous past. It seems to me that besides the family greetings and the binding together the ties of kinship which each one of these gatherings has strengthened, we should never lose sight of one of our aims, which is to cultivate a family pride. I have spoken of how much we seem indebted to all of these early settlers in our material prosperity, but perhaps more than all, the fact that we to-day live in a free country and are a free and independent people belongs to them. Among those who listened to the joyful peal of the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia were many of our own ancestors, nearly a hundred of whom fought on our battle fields for freedom in the war of the Revolution. To our cousins in Marietta we may to-day send greetings. As Plymouth Bay was





the starting point of our country's growth, so Marietta, Ohio, is another stepping stone in its progress, and one of our ancestors is largely responsible that the great northwest was settled and has grown to such magnificent proportions and has so many people of our name, as its best and most influential inhabitants.

One of the prominent characteristics of our family is that they have always been pioneers, following in the footsteps of their ancestor Benjamin who as a boy showed this trait in embarking at the early age of sixteen as one of the early settlers of America. They have helped settle, and made the name known in and about every state of the union.

Family Associations such as ours, and those of a similar purpose, formed to keep alive and to perpetuate the lives and deeds of their ancestors, must necessarily deal with three important periods.

One is, the past, which is history, and gives us by its records the story of what our forbears accomplished in their day; from this we may learn the lessons of their lives, which we believe to be such that we should cherish and honor them. One is, the present, the acting and living reality, and in it taking the best of the past, and the example set by their lives, let us carry to the future generations such lessons that they may look back and write as our history also, Well Done. One is, the future, this is unwritten and unknown, let us hope that the good influence of the past may impress itself upon it, and I trust that this family tree, rooted so many years ago in the sterile soil of Cape Cod, may flourish, so that beneath its shade there may always gather a goodly company of Nyes to thank the Giver of all good for its planting.

A paper was then given by Mr. Fred Tupper, Fairfield, Vt., who said :

I am glad to meet these people, and glad to be here with you to-night. The sugar you had this afternoon was made by Thomas Tupper; the land was cleared and owned by my grandfather, Thomas Tupper, over one hundred years ago. I am glad to be able to present to you an article on Katharine Tupper.



There is an old Greek proverb which says "Mighty is the power of motherhood."

Dr. Parkhurst says, Homes are each of them the separate roots that carry their several contributions to the organized structure of general life.

The home is the first church, the first state. There is nothing in either of the two that is not initially in a small way inside the Home circle.

Compare the outcome of the Colony at Jamestown and that of Plymouth in the early days of the republic.

These were the original sources of American society and shaped its development.

Both races were vigorous offshoots of the same English stock developed under different conditions.

The Virginians came to this country for money, not for religious freedom and they were sadly disappointed.

They met the same hardships as did the New Englanders. They had no home ties, no families and no homes. The colony was going to destruction when sixty maidens from Old England came over, for whom a large quantity of tobacco was paid by colonists. They became the mothers of Virginia and the colony was saved.

Plymouth had families; fearless, healthy women, perfect in mind and body, accompanied their stalwart husbands to the rock bound coast, and for freedom to worship God and love of their husbands and children braved the war cry of the savage and the beasts of the field and carved a home out of the wilderness.

If man discovered the country, women made it fit to live in, and New England homes have become proverbial for intelligence and honesty.

American women inherit the love of independence and brilliancy and work for it along professional lines; but the woman who makes the home of the energetic loving man like your ancestor Benjamin and leads the simple but strong life of the "Mother" Katharine is credited with the most noble part, and the strong, noble men and women who honestly do their part in the world's work proudly recognize the noble qualities of such ancestors as long as the world stands, and live in honor up to the principles





taught in childhood. And the proudest and most eloquent epitaph that can be written is "Mary, the mother of Washington."

History is replete with notable instances bearing testimony to the fact that of all human forces influencing human lives no other is so strong, so enduring, as that exerted by a mother. All unite in declaring that greater than any other tribute which mortals can have the honor of paying is the tribute to a noble mother.

Mother love is

"The love that none forgets,  
The bread which God divides and multiplies,  
A table ever spread with bounteous grace  
To each his portion gives, to none denies."

Mr. Tupper then read a communication from Rev. H. M. Tupper of Raleigh, N. C., about the early history of Katharine's ancestors :

For many years the undersigned has been engaged in obtaining facts in relation to the Tupper family, and has a large personal acquaintance in many portions of this country and the Provinces.

Also I have made extended researches relating to the earlier generations in this country, tracing their ancestry in England and back to Germany to about 1200. During all these centuries, the family has been one of eminent respectability, highly distinguished for valor, and furnishing many men of prominence in almost every avocation of life, and who have everywhere reflected honor upon the family name.

It may be a matter of interest to those who have not received my previous circulars to learn as to the origin of the name, and a few facts as to the history of the family anterior to the emigration of Thomas Tupper to America.

The Tuppers are of ancient Saxon origin. In the early part of the thirteenth century there was a Thuringian chief by the name of Conrad Von Treffurth, who in 1260 became chief lord, and afterwards bore the appellation of Von Toppherr. He was at the



head of several families, and the names of the clan or septs were very similar, as Topfer, Tophern, Tapfer and Toepfern. They owned large real estates, and had castles at Kleintoepfer and at Grostoepfer, nearly midway between Weimar and Hesse Cassel.

In later Saxon records the name was spelt Toppfer, Topffer, Topfer, Topper, and Toffer. In the reign of Charles V the family suffered great persecution from the Catholics as "obstinate Lutherans" and "lost all." The phrase "lost all" gave origin to the name Toutperd and Toutpert, by which the family was known in France. Tout, all, and perd or perdu the stem from the verb perdre, to loose, and by a slight modification pronounced Toupard in the Netherlands.

Hence these later forms have an historical signification, and the various changes the name has undergone must be a matter of interest to every descendant bearing the name of Tupper. After they had been driven from their estates in Thuringia, they fled to Hesse Cassel, Upper Saxony, about 1520. Two brothers left the country: one settled in Holland, and in 1813, a descendant, Daniel Tupper, was Burgomaster of Rotterdam. The other brother fled to Switzerland and was the ancestor of Rodolph Topffer, the celebrated author. The other members of the Tupper family fled from Hesse Cassel in 1522, to the "Low Countries," and thence took refuge in England in the reign of Henry VIII.

Robert and Henry first settled in Chickester, Sussex, and William in London. Robert afterwards moved to Sandwich, and Henry in 1548 went to Guernsey. Martin Farquhar Tupper is a descendant of Henry. John, his eldest son, married "Mary, sole child and heiress of Peter LePolly," and "the family has always ranked high and been considered among the principal gentry of the island; and their arms and crest granted and registered in England, bear evidence of well-earned augmentation." Many of their descendants have been greatly distinguished for their valor.

Thomas Tupper, who emigrated to America, was probably the grandson of Robert of Sandwich, Eng., born 1576, and landed at Saugus, Mass., about 1635. There was another Thomas Tupper, "Clergyman of the Barbadoes," who in 1635, in the Admiralty Records, is registered among the emigrants taking passage to



St. Christopher, W. I., but he was the grandson of Henry of Guernsey.

There has been some confusion and doubts arising from the fact that two persons by the name of Thomas Tupper sailed from England within a few years of each other.

In Burk's "Landed Gentry" it is stated, that the Sandwich branch emigrated to America. I propose to have the Sandwich records, England, examined, and ascertain all the facts possible in reference to the Thomas Tupper who came to America.

He landed at Saugus, Mass., and in 1637 became one of the incorporators of Sandwich, Mass. He had a son Thomas, born January, 1638, who married Martha Mayhew, the daughter of Gov. Mayhew of Marthas Vineyard. They had eleven children, seven sons and four daughters. Six of the sons became heads of families, to wit: Thomas, Israel, Ichabod, Eldad, Medad and Eliakim. And from these six sons have descended all the Tupper in this country and the Dominion of Canada.

Also an article on the Tupper Family published in Magazine of American History in Oct. 1889:

The two-hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary of the town of Sandwich, Massachusetts, was productive of many interesting historical and genealogical reminiscences. In a number of the Springfield Republican soon afterwards the following item appeared:

"A thriving farm on the line of the Cape Cod ship canal, not far from Sagamore, has been in the hands of the Tupper family since it was first settled in 1624. Thus this has passed from father to son through six generations to the present Mr. Tupper, and is doubtless the nearest example we have in America of the entailed estates in England. When the founder of this line, Thomas Tupper, settled on the land, the place was known as Shaum, an Indian village. He was a man of strict business habits, and his first will, still preserved, shows the methods by which property is retained in one family for two hundred and fifty years. It is a clear case of genuine pedigree, with none of the pomp in which it often parades nowadays."





The date, 1624, would seem to be an error, as "Thomas Tupper was one of ten men" to settle Sandwich in 1637. This Tupper family is one of the most ancient in the United States, emigrating originally from Germany. An autograph letter from Martin F. Tupper (in possession of the writer of this article) gives some interesting facts about the Tuppers.

"Cintra Park, Upper Norwood,

London, S. E. Jan. 14, 1882.

*Worthy Sir and indubitably distant Cousin:*

In answer to your kind letter written a month ago, I give you these few details respecting our family in the ages that are past. There was a Thuringian magnate of the name of Conrad Von Treffurth, who in 1260, was hailed Von Toppherr—or chief lord—as he was head of several septs of nearly the same name, as Topfer, Toepfern, Tapfer and Tophern; they had castles at Gros Toepfer and Klein Toepfer near Weimar, and possessed several other large estates. However, being of the protestant sort and therefore hostile to Charles V. and Philip—as well as Pope Innocent and others preceding—they incurred persecution and the loss of all things for conscience sake; and are found at Hesse Cassel about 1520, from which three brothers Tupper migrated severally to Sandwich in Sussex, Guernsey, and Chichester; their names being Robert, Henry, and William. Henry is my direct ancestor, and his second son Peter had a son, a clergyman of Barbadoes, who is stated by tradition to have migrated to North America; possibly this was your Thomas. Freeman's History of Massachusetts will give you ten generations of the Tuppers out there; and besides Sir Charles, there are plenty of prosperous merchants and lawyers of the name, as Wm. Vaughan Tupper of Brooklyn, New York; Samuel Y. Tupper of Charleston, South Carolina; Mason Ferris Tupper of, I think, Buffalo, and others."

Whether Martin Farquhar Tupper's conjecture about Thomas Tupper is correct or not is uncertain. With reference to the



Guernsey branch of the Tupper family, it is said in De Haviland's *Genealogical Sketches* :

"This family, settled in Guernsey since the close of the sixteenth century, has always ranked and been considered among the principal gentry of the island; many of its members have gallantly fought and bled, or otherwise distinguished themselves in the public service; and their arms and crest, granted and registered in England, bear evidence of well-earned augmentation; they are described as follows: Arms: *azure* on a fess engrailed on three wild boars passant, *or*; as many escallops *gules*; on a canton *ermine*, a medal suspended by a chain, bearing the effigies of William and Mary, *gold*. Crest: on a mound *vert* a greyhound *ermine* resting its dexter forepaw on a escutcheon *azure*, thereon the gold medal of William and Mary. The reverse of this medal represents a sea fight and bears the singular legend of 'Nox Nulla Secuta Est.'"

Among the most distinguished members of the Guernsey branch of the Tupper family may be mentioned: "1st. John Tupper, who, in 1692, conveyed to Admiral Russell, at St. Helen's, the information that the French fleet under Tourville was in the Channel; the celebrated battle of La Hogue was the result. For this patriotic service Mr. Tupper was presented by William and Mary with a massive gold medal and chain, which his descendants are permitted to bear as an honorable augmentation to their arms and crest. 2d. Major-General John Tupper, commander-in-chief of the Royal Marines. He was commandant of a battalion at Bunker Hill, where he was slightly wounded and where the marines, having greatly distinguished themselves, won the laurel which now encircles their device. 3d. Lieutenant Carre Tupper, of H. M. S. Victory (Lord Hood's flag-ship) was made lieutenant at just seventeen. After distinguishing himself at the siege of Toulon, in 1793, he was killed at the siege of Bastia, 1794. A monument was erected to Major-General Tupper and his son (Carre) in the church at Chatham. 4th. Peter Carey Tupper, British consul first for Valencia and next for Catalonia, highly distinguished himself in the Peninsular war from 1808 to 1814. His name appears honorably in Napier's history and in the duke of Wellington's dispatches. In May, 1808, when not quite





twenty-four years of age, he was appointed a member of the Supreme Junta of the kingdom of Valencia. In 1816 the king of Spain conferred upon him the title of baron. He had a pension of six hundred pounds a year for his services. 5th. Lieutenant W. William Tupper, of H. M. S. Sybille, was mortally wounded, in command of the launch, in action with Greek pirates near Candia, 1826. 6th. Colonel William De Vic Tupper was slain near Talca, Chile, April 17, 1830, aged twenty-nine years." It may be remarked that Lieutenant E. William Tupper and Colonel William De Vic Tupper were nephews of Major-General Sir Isaac Brock, K. B. "7th. Captain William Le Mesurier Tupper, Twenty-third or Royal Welsh Fusiliers (also colonel in the British Auxiliary Legion in Spain), was mortally wounded at the head of his regiment, near St. Sebastian, May 5, 1836."

From the Guernsey branch there are other distinguished members of the family; but space will permit me to mention only Martin Farquhar Tupper, author of *Proverbial Philosophy* and numerous other works. Martin Farquhar's three daughters have won some reputation in literature. An interesting letter from one of these ladies, Ellen Isabelle Tupper, is in possession of the writer. It is probable that many names of distinguished members of the Tupper family have been omitted, as tradition reports that there were Tupperes among the Cavaliers.

Of the Tupperes in Massachusetts and other parts of the United States much might be written. The following members of the family are not without some claims to distinction: 1st. Thomas Tupper, one of the founders of Sandwich; he was generally known as Captain Tupper; was said to be in favor with the government in 1663; he gave his attention to the Indians in 1658; founded a church near Herring river; was a member of the council of war, a selectman many years, deputy nineteen years, besides giving much of his time to the work of gospelizing the Indians. 2d. Thomas Tupper, junior, married Martha Mayhew, daughter of the governor of Marthas Vineyard. He (Thomas Tupper) was prominent in public affairs. Says an old writer, "The family furnished Sandwich and other places with some worthy characters, some of whom were men of abilities." Thomas Tupper was also a missionary to the Indians. 3d. Samuel Tup-



per was a representative seven years, and a selectman nineteen years.

4th. Rev. Elisha Tupper was a missionary to the Indians. His "Correspondence with the Commissioners for propagating the gospel among the Indians" has much historical value. Several others of the family were missionaries to the Indians.

5th. General Benjamin Tupper served in the French and Indian war, was in the battle of Bunker Hill, distinguished himself in an expedition to an island in Boston Harbor, and "was thanked by Washington in general orders." Of this daring act of General (then Major) Tupper it has been said that "Jefferson saw in it the adventurous genius and intrepidity of the New Englanders, and the British admiral said, that no one act in the siege caused so much chagrin in London as the destruction of the lighthouse." He was also at Saratoga and Valley Forge, was prominent in suppressing Shay's rebellion, and one of the pioneers of Ohio. His son Anselm "was the first school teacher in Marietta, and was a fine classical scholar, a good mathematician and something of a poet;" General Edward W. Tupper, another son of General Benjamin Tupper, was also a distinguished man.

In passing it may be remarked that Point Tupper in Canada was named after Mr. F. B. Tupper, and that the Tupper Lakes of New York received their name from the fact that Anselm Tupper was drowned in one of them. 6th. Sir Charles Tupper, Bart., is the son of Rev. Charles Tupper, a famous linguist. "He is a graduate of Acadia College" and of Edinburgh University. He has been a member of parliament, minister of railways, minister of finance, Canadian high commissioner, and a member of the fishery commission. He has also been knighted and made a baronet by the Queen of England. 7th. Hon. Charles Hibbert Tupper, son of the preceding, is a graduate of the Harvard Law School, and is now the youngest member of the Dominion cabinet. 8th. Rev. H. A. Tupper, D. D., is secretary of the Southern Baptist Missionary Society. 9th. Rev. H. M. Tupper, D. D., is president of Shaw University, Raleigh, North Carolina. 10th. Edith Sessions Tupper is the author of a novel, *By Whose Hand?* Rev. S. T. Rand, LL. D., of Nova Scotia, and at one time master of at least twelve languages, says: "Whatever talent I have



been blessed with, I have inherited from my mother, Deborah Tupper."

Among the families into which the Tupperes have married are those of Mayhew, Gibbs, Clark, Wheaton, Smith, Morton, Dunkin, Basset, Ellis, West, Perry, Gifford, Faunce, Nye, Jackson, Wood, Willis, Davis, Lord, White, Allen, Binney, Van Buskirk, Bill, Barker, and others.

Rev. H. M. Tupper, D. D., says: "It may be a matter of interest to the descendants to learn that the old Tupper mansion is still standing in Sandwich, Massachusetts, (owned and occupied by one bearing the family name, Russell Ellis Tupper.)\*"

FREDERIC ALLISON TUPPER.

Shelburne Falls, Mass.

A short address followed by Mr. Thomas C. Nye of Laredo, Texas, well known throughout the United States as the "Onion King" of Texas:

*Mr. President, Fellow-citizens:*

You want to hear something about Texas. I was born in 1844. Texas has been good to me. Texas is a great state, and great in her people. Texas is 800 miles square; grows one-third of the cotton in the United States. I want to tell you about one of the laws we have in that State that no other state has. Land cannot be sold for any debt; cannot mortgage it for automobiles. The women and children can never be turned out of doors, and if any of the young people come to Texas they will have that to encourage them. There is room enough to grow. I feel proud that I belong to this crowd of intelligent men and handsome women.

Mr. William W. Nye of Keene, N. H., again favored the audience with a song.

\*Editor's note:

It has now passed out of the family, of which but one member is now living who is in direct line, Russell Tupper. He is a son of Henry, who died in August, 1909.





The chairman then said :

One matter has been overlooked. It has always been the custom to publish the proceedings of our meetings in book form, but it was not printed last year.

Mr. Thomas C. Nye of Texas moved that the proceedings of the two years, 1908 and 1909, be published in one book. The motion was carried and the matter left in the hands of the Executive Committee.

The Chairman then said :

We feel truly thankful for the manner in which we have been treated and we shall carry with us very pleasant memories of this re-union, and another year we shall ask you to meet us in Sandwich. This closes the program for the evening, this is the last time we will meet in this place; to-morrow is the excursion to Highgate Springs and in the evening the reception at Mr. Lynford O. Nye's.

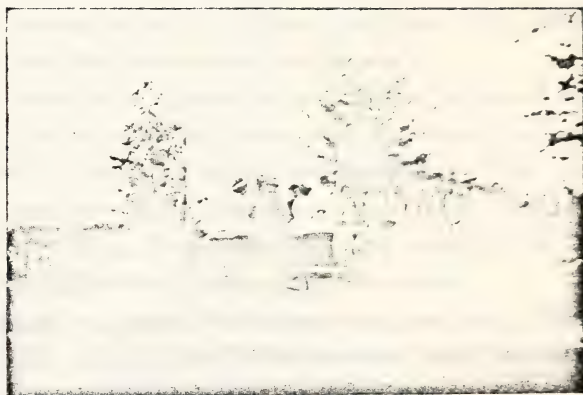
Friday opened fair and bright, though rather warm, yet an ideal day for the excursion to Highgate Springs, three and one-half miles from Highgate Centre.

At nine o'clock a large number of the Nye Family gathered at the Columbia House, waiting for the conveyances that were to take them on their journey.

These consisted of four large two-horse hay-racks, besides other carriages and the more modern autos.

It was a jolly company that started away, and to those who were privileged to view the long procession, as it wended its way through valley and over the hills, was a ludicrous sight that will long be remembered.





OFF FOR HIGHGATE SPRINGS





The hay-racks with straw cushions were generously furnished by their owners, and to them the company feel grateful for a novel and most interesting occasion.

The first stop was made at the "Carman Cave," about one-half way to the Springs, hewn from the solid rock. There are three large rooms in the cave. It was most interesting. Tradition says that an escaped criminal from St. Albans made this his hiding place until he could find a way to reach the Canada line.

The party arrived at the Springs in due time and spent the day roaming over the pleasant grounds, strolling along the beautiful shore of Lake Champlain, motoring over the lake to the Canada shore, and trading with the Indians, purchasing the different styles of baskets they know so well how to weave.

Highgate Springs is a beautiful spot on the shores of Lake Champlain, three miles from Canada, and is a resort for excursionists from all over that section and from New York state; a fine hotel, good boating, and the finest scenery in the world.

At twelve o'clock the large company took seats at the long tables and full justice was done to a fine fish chowder.

The afternoon was passed in various ways and early "Moses and his followers started again for the promised land," arriving at Highgate Centre about five o'clock, tired but happy.

It was a day long to be remembered and all with one accord voted that Highgate was a grand place and Highgate people all right.

A most delightful farewell reception was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. O. Nye Friday evening, August 6, closing the re-union of the Nye Family of America, which was begun here on Wednesday. The lawn was profusely decorated with Japanese lanterns and presented a very attractive appearance. Mr. and Mrs. L. O. Nye received the guests on the lawn. Ryan's Orchestra of St. Albans was stationed on the veranda and played throughout the evening.



## In Memoriam

1908.

- Mrs. Bartlett Nye, Champlain, N. Y.  
Charles Freeman Nye, Champlain, N. Y.  
Mrs. Levi Nye, Sandwich, Mass.  
Mrs. Tabitha Nye, Sandwich, Mass.  
Mr. Emerson Brush, Elmhurst, Ill.  
Mr. Harold B. Nye, Cleveland, Ohio.  
Dr. W. W. Gates, Portsmouth, Ohio.  
Mrs. S. Curtis Smith, Newton, Mass.  
Mr. Nelson Nye, Highgate, Vt.  
Mrs. Deborah R. Eaton Nye, Skowhegan, Me.  
Mrs. Cynthia Nye Smily, Skowhegan, Me.

1909.

- Mrs. James L. Wesson, Boston.  
Gen. George H. Nye, Roxbury.  
Mrs. Sarah Nye Lovell, Marietta, Ohio.  
Dr. Harry N. Curtis, Marietta, Ohio.  
Mrs. Alfred Nye, Fairhaven, Mass.  
Mrs. Southworth H. Nye, Dennis, Mass.  
Mr. S. Buel Nye, Noroton Heights, Conn.  
Mr. Franklin Crocker, Hyannis, Mass.  
Dr. George L. Nye, Hurricane, West Va.  
Mr. Enoch R. Nye, Lakeview, Montana.  
Mrs. P. C. Eastman, Rock, Mass.  
Mrs. Nelson R. Nye, Leavenworth, Kan.  
Mr. Thomas S. Nye, Attleboro, Mass.
-



LIST OF THOSE REGISTERING AT THE  
FIFTH REUNION, SANDWICH,

AUG. 5, 6, 7, 1908.

---

Rev. Elmer I. Nye, Georgia, Vt.  
Mrs. Elmer I. Nye, Georgia, Vt.  
Hiram Hale Nye, Georgia, Vt.  
Eunice A. Blake, Abington, Mass.  
Helen M. Warren, South Acton, Mass.  
Eben P. Bourne, Marietta, Ohio.  
Mrs. Helen A. Nye, North Falmouth, Mass.  
George W. Rogers, Sandwich, Mass.  
Emilie Nye Bartlett, St. Joseph, Mo.  
J. Edwin Nye, Auburn, Me.  
William L. Nye, Sandwich, Mass.  
Mrs. William L. Nye, Sandwich, Mass.  
Miss Mary E. Nye, Sandwich, Mass.  
Levi S. Nye, Sandwich, Mass.  
Everett I. Nye, Wellfleet, Mass.  
Mrs. E. I. Nye, Wellfleet, Mass.  
Sarah M. Haines, Sandwich, Mass.  
Johnson A. Haines, Sandwich, Mass.  
Catherine Nye, Kearney, Neb.  
Mrs. Orie Nye Abbott, Chicago, Ill.  
Nellie M. Nye, Milford, Mass.  
Martha J. Cottle, Chilmark, Mass.  
Mrs. Henry S. Thayer, Braintree, Mass.  
Mrs. Edwin P. Tirrell, South Weymouth, Mass.  
Mrs. Minerva Tupper Nash, Zanesville, Ohio.  
Annie M. Freeman, Wareham, Mass.





Mabel S. Freeman, Wareham, Mass.  
Dorothy Freeman, Wareham, Mass.  
Wallace Freeman, Wareham, Mass.  
John M. Freeman, Wareham, Mass.  
Mary Nye Roberts, Indianapolis, Ind.  
John Roberts, Indianapolis, Ind.  
Mrs. F. A. Coffin, Orange, N. J.  
F. A. Coffin, Orange, N. J.  
S. Curtis Smith, Newton, Mass.  
Annie M. Smith, Newton, Mass.  
Clara Nye Smith, Newton, Mass.  
Mary B. Nye, Sagamore, Mass.  
Mrs. Abby J. Nye, Sagamore, Mass.  
William F. Nye, Fairhaven, Mass.  
Mrs. W. W. Brown, Fairhaven, Mass.  
Mrs. Nathan Nye, Sagamore, Mass.  
Mrs. Ellen Nye Crowell, Sagamore, Mass.  
Mrs. Susan Nye Dykes, Ridgewood, N. J.  
Helen Nye Dykes, Ridgewood, N. J.  
Miss Dorothy Nye, Sagamore, Mass.  
Elizabeth F. Nye, Sagamore, Mass.  
Mr. James Chipman, Jamaica Plain, Mass.  
Mrs. James Chipman, Jamaica Plain, Mass.  
Holmes Nye, Walpole, Mass.  
Mrs. Holmes Nye, Walpole, Mass.  
J. H. Nye, Brockton, Mass.  
Miss Florence Nye, Brockton, Mass.  
James L. Wesson, Boston, Mass.  
Mrs. James L. Wesson, Boston, Mass.  
Isabel Wesson, Boston, Mass.  
Mrs. Sarah C. Wesson, Sandwich, Mass.  
Mrs. M. F. Nye Jennison, Brooklyn, N. Y.  
Theron E. Ludington, Goshen, Conn.  
Mrs. Louise Nye Churchill, New York.  
William A. Nye, Bourne, Mass.  
F. Ellis Pierce, Jr., New Haven, Conn.  
Alvah Holway, Sandwich, Mass.  
Grover Nye, Laredo, Texas.



John Chipman, Sandwich, Mass.  
Mrs. John Chipman, Sandwich, Mass.  
W. C. Nye, East Barre, Vt.  
Benjamin A. Hathaway, Plymouth, Mass.  
Amy R. Holway, Sandwich, Mass.  
Helen Nye Holway, Sandwich, Mass.  
Mrs. Jerome R. Holway, Sandwich, Mass.  
Abbie F. Nye, Sandwich, Mass.  
Mary H. Nye, Plymouth, Mass.  
Alberta E. Nye, Boston, Mass.  
Ralph L. Nye, Brooklyn, N. Y.  
Eugene Haines, Sandwich, Mass.  
Mary F. Haines, Sandwich, Mass.  
Annie Nye Smith, Littleton Common, Mass.  
Annie E. Nye, Sandwich, Mass.  
M. Carrie Nye, Sandwich, Mass.  
Mr. Augustus S. Nye, Dorchester, Mass.  
Mrs. A. S. Nye, Dorchester, Mass.  
Mr. Henry A. Belcher, Randolph, Mass.  
Mrs. Henry A. Belcher, Randolph, Mass.  
Mrs. Stephen B. Nye, Sandwich, Mass.  
Mary E. Nye, Sandwich, Mass.  
Robert W. Thompson, Middletown, Conn.  
Catherine Nye Thompson, Middletown, Conn.  
Jennie T. Knowles, Hartford, Conn.  
Walter E. R. Nye, Sagamore, Mass.  
Mrs. Timothy Crocker, South Hyannis, Mass.  
Alice Crocker, Barnstable, Mass.  
Mary M. Nye, Boston, Mass.  
Charles H. Nye, Hyannis, Mass.  
Rev. W. H. Rider, Gloucester, Mass.  
Louise H. Handy, Fall River, Mass.  
David D. Nye, Bourne, Mass.  
Esther L. Nye, Bourne, Mass.  
John H. Abbott, Whitman, Mass.  
Mrs. J. H. Abbott, Whitman, Mass.  
F. A. Keith, Fall River, Mass.  
Mrs. Emma C. Hartford, Watertown, Mass.





Nathan B. Hartford, Watertown, Mass.  
Mrs. Nannie Nye Perry, Monument Beach, Mass.  
Ezra G. Perry, Monument Beach, Mass.  
Mrs. Clement Nye Swift, Acushnet, Mass.  
Annie S. Knowles, New Bedford, Mass.  
Mrs. Alfred Nye, Fairhaven, Mass.  
Joshua G. Nye, Sagamore, Mass.  
Abbie J. Nye, Sagamore, Mass.  
Amy Bourne Washburn, Plymouth, Mass.  
Martha Bourne Weston, Plymouth, Mass.  
Annie May Brown, Elizabeth, N. J.  
Carleton S. Nye, North Fall River, Mass.  
Laura Nye Eldred, North Falmouth, Mass.  
Helen F. Nye, North Falmouth, Mass.  
Joshua Crowell, East Dennis, Mass.  
William Belknap Nye, Boston, Mass.  
Mrs. M. T. Soule, Middleboro, Mass.  
John P. Nye, Sandwich, Mass.  
T. Wilson Nye, Salem, Mass.  
Caroline T. Freeman, Sandwich, Mass.  
Rose Parker, Boston, Mass.  
Wilson M. Floyd, Middleton, Mass.  
Helen M. Lapham, Sandwich, Mass.  
Mrs. William A. Nye, Bourne, Mass.  
Miss Hannah B. Nye, Marion, Mass.  
Mrs. George B. Nye, Marion, Mass.  
Mrs. R. L. Luce, Marion, Mass.  
Mr. R. L. Luce, Marion, Mass.  
Miss Emma F. Bennett, Rochester, Mass.  
Mrs. H. F. Chadwick, Marion, Mass.  
Joseph A. Bates, Baltimore, Md.  
Mrs. J. A. Bates, Baltimore, Md.  
Jerome R. Holway, Sandwich, Mass.  
Joseph K. Nye, New Bedford, Mass.  
John M. Freeman, Wareham, Mass.  
Everett Nye Freeman, Wareham, Mass.  
Mrs. Horace K. Nye, Fairhaven, Mass.  
Mrs. F. N. Holway, Sandwich, Mass.



LIST OF THOSE REGISTERING AT THE SIXTH  
REUNION, HIGHGATE CENTRE, VT.,

AUG. 4, 5, 6, 1909.

---

Mrs. Annie Nye Smith, Littleton Common, Mass.  
C. W. Nye, Laredo, Texas.  
T. Wilson Nye, Salem, Mass.  
Wilson M. Floyd, Middleton, Mass.  
B. E. Nye, East Highgate, Vt.  
Julia Swift Nye, East Highgate, Vt.  
Mr. E. I. Nye, Wellfleet, Mass.  
Mrs. E. I. Nye, Wellfleet, Mass.  
Mrs. Cordelia Nye Young, Wellfleet, Mass.  
Mrs. William H. Nye, Johnson, Vt.  
Mary Woodruff Nye, Johnson, Vt.  
Elmer I. Nye, Georgia, Vt.  
Mrs. E. I. Nye, Georgia, Vt.  
Hiram Hale Nye, Georgia, Vt.  
Mrs. Minerva Tupper Nash, Zanesville, Ohio.  
Miss Abbie F. Nye, Sandwich, Mass.  
Mrs. Helen F. Holway, Sandwich, Mass.  
Amy R. Holway, Sandwich, Mass.  
Thomas C. Nye, Laredo, Texas.  
Mrs. T. C. Nye, Laredo, Texas.  
Miss Augusta A. Nye, Littleton Common, Mass.  
Grover Nye, Laredo, Texas.  
Charlotte Hathaway, Plymouth, Mass.  
William G. Nye, North Montpelier, Vt.  
Mrs. W. G. Nye, North Montpelier, Vt.



Mrs. M. E. Stoddard, Fairhaven, Mass.

B. F. Nye, Highgate, Vt.

Lynford Nye, Highgate, Vt.

Osborne Barr Nye, Highgate, Vt.

Mr. Norman Nye, East Cambridge, Vt.

Mrs. Norman Nye, East Cambridge, Vt.

Ralph Nye, East Cambridge, Vt.

Sarah Nye, East Cambridge, Vt.

Roland Nye, East Cambridge, Vt.

Kenneth Nye, East Cambridge, Vt.

Bennie Nye, East Cambridge, Vt.

Mrs. A. C. Nye, Broughton, Kan.

Clarence A. Nye, Broughton, Kan.

Southworth H. Nye, Dennis, Mass.

Mrs. E. E. Smith, Swanton, Vt.

Helen L. Smith, Swanton, Vt.

Gertrude N. Smith, Swanton, Vt.

E. E. Smith, Swanton, Vt.

G. Y. Smith, Fort Worth, Tex.

Mrs. G. Y. Smith, Fort Worth, Tex.

Nelson R. Nye, Leavenworth, Kan.

Mary E. Wilcox, Des Moines, Iowa.

Mrs. George W. Nye, Fairfield, Vt.

George W. Nye, Fairfield, Vt.

C. W. Wilcox, Des Moines, Iowa.

William F. Nye, New Bedford, Mass.

William L. Nye, Sandwich, Mass.

Mary E. Nye, Sandwich, Mass.

Eliza A. Marsh, St. Albans, Vt.

George P. Catlin, St. Albans, Vt.

Mrs. G. P. Catlin, St. Albans, Vt.

Harley M. Watkins, Jeffersonville, Vt.

Mrs. J. A. Watkins, Jeffersonville, Vt.

W. C. Nye, Washington, Vt.

H. P. Marsh, Sheldon, Vt.

Jessie Barr Nye, Highgate Centre, Vt.

Mrs. W. C. Marsh, Sheldon, Vt.

W. C. Marsh, Sheldon, Vt.





Mary L. Marsh, Sheldon, Vt.  
Mrs. H. P. Marsh.  
George K. Marsh.  
Mrs. George K. Marsh.  
Mrs. C. F. Nye, Pawnee City, Neb.  
Mr. C. F. Nye, Pawnee City, Neb.  
A. N. Nye, Highgate, Vt.  
Mrs. A. N. Nye, Highgate, Vt.  
William Nye, Keene, N. H.  
Benjamin A. Hathaway, Plymouth, Mass.  
Alice Crocker, Barnstable, Mass.  
Robert W. Thompson, Middletown, Conn.  
Mr. J. Edwin Nye, Auburn, Me.  
Mrs. J. E. Nye, Auburn, Me.  
J. N. Warner, St. Albans, Vt.  
Henry A. Belcher, Randolph, Mass.  
Mrs. Henry A. Belcher, Randolph, Mass.  
Harold P. Marsh, Sheldon, Vt.  
Lucius B. Warner, St. Albans, Vt.  
Cora L. Warner, St. Albans, Vt.  
James H. Nye, Brockton, Mass.  
Florence G. Nye, Brockton, Mass.  
Laura Virginia Nye, Marietta, Ohio.  
Charles E. Stebbins, Chicopee, Mass.  
Elizabeth Nye Stebbins, Chicopee, Mass.  
William H. Nye, Johnson, Vt.  
Richard Cowles Nye, Johnson, Vt.  
Katherine P. Nye, Marietta, Ohio.  
M. F. Leach, St. Albans, Vt.  
Mrs. M. F. Leach, St. Albans, Vt.  
Mrs. E. M. Vernal, St. Albans, Vt.  
Mrs. Harold Vernal, St. Albans, Vt.  
Shirley Stone Catlin, St. Albans, Vt.  
Guy Marsh Catlin, St. Albans, Vt.  
Miss Laura Catlin, St. Albans, Vt.  
Herbert P. Catlin, St. Albans, Vt.  
Mr. Ernest Brooks, St. Albans, Vt.  
Mrs. Ernest Brooks, St. Albans, Vt.



Vernal Brooks, St. Albans, Vt.  
Stanley Brooks, St. Albans, Vt.  
Millard Foss Brooks, St. Albans, Vt.  
Elizabeth C. Brooks, St. Albans, Vt.  
Mrs. Mary E. Vernal, St. Albans, Vt.  
Mary C. Warner, St. Albans, Vt.  
Truman Warner, St. Albans, Vt.  
Henry H. Nye, Jeffersonville, Vt.  
Frances Nye Page, Washington, D. C.  
Maud Nye, Auburn, N. Y.















APR 75

N. MANCHESTER,  
INDIANA



